

Hatrockhound Gazette 2022

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)**

**President - Doug Gill
V. Pres. - Mike Filarski
Secretary - Trista Meek
Treasurer - Mel Lambert
Members At Large - Louise
Lambert, Laura Tiffany**

**Newsletter/Website - Judi Allison
Contact Numbers: Mike 541-571-2593, Judi 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 2022 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. (3 Prizes: 1st, 2nd, and Best Story)

We'll be seeing you on October 11th with your entries!!!!

(Treats by Doug and Judi)

Hatrockhound Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2022

We were graced with the presence of June Rosenberg and Bob Knudson. Art and Jonnie Moreno were also present, and we got things straight so we all now know they are official members. Tarah's sister, Timber also joined us. Good to see new and returning faces. Welcome to all.

Since our Secretary, Trista had to work, Judi stepped. We had no Treasurer's report other than to say our finances are sound. Mel did report that the cost of the chicken and reserving the space for the shelter at the park outweighed our income for the picnic, but that is why we have a treasury; and everyone had a good time.

General Business

Mike reported that he had checked about the 2023 show and was trying for the weekend of May 20-21. Laurie suggested that the contact information on the flyers for next year be bigger. Judi mentioned that she is still planning on speaking with the facility about reserving for a three day show in 2024 for an NFMS Show, as long as the membership was still in agreement. We hope to grab the weekend of May 16-19, 2024, as the show will be three days. Judi also announced that the current NFMS Show will be September 30-October 2 in Hillsboro, which is close enough to take in during a long day. The Walla Walla Show was last weekend. Sandra reported that it was a good show and well attended.

The field trip to the McBones site is September 24. We will meet at the Crossroads in Umatilla at 8:45 am. Judi passed around a sign-up sheet. There will be a waiver for all to sign prior to going. We will have them available on the day. Mike mentioned that if one wanted to see a lot of mammoths, go to Mammoth Hot Springs in South Dakota.

Show and Tell

Laurie thought the rock she brought looked interesting in its round form. Mike identified it as basalt.

Todd displayed a really nice chunk of opal that had broken off.

Art asked for help identifying his collection which included a sedimentary rock, Opal Butte opal, jasper and serpentine.

Chris brought a really nice looking thunderegg she had gotten from Donna. Mike thought it probably came from the Ochocos-maybe Lucky Strike or Valley View Mine.

Bob had a tray of jewelry that he asked for verification on the identity of each.

Door Prizes were won by Jayson, Chris, Mike, Jonnie, Sue and Judi.

Program: Sandra instructed a number of members on creating a lovely bail for a stone with a hole in order to create a pendant. Thanks, Sandra! I saw a lot on nice looking pieces.

Acting Secretary, Judi Allison



Hatrockhound Executive Minutes

September 26, 2022

Present: Mel and Louise Lambert, Mike Filarski, Judi Allison, Doug Gill

Most of our time was taken up with discussion of the dates for the 2023 show. Mike was trying to get back to the third weekend, but it appears that we will need to choose Mother's Day weekend, May 12-14. The weekend of May 5th was available, but that is also the time that all the Cinco de Mayo activities are going on. We felt it safer to choose the Mother's Day weekend. We will also probably have to settle for that weekend in 2024 for the Federation Show we are planning on doing.

Our meeting in October will include election of the Vice President and Treasurer for a two year period. Both Mike and Mel have agreed to continue in those positions. We will ask for nominations from the floor prior to voting.

Our program for October will be the rock costume contest. Doug and Judi are listed for treats.

Remember that November is the Project of the Year contest: I Made It, I Found It and I Bought It. You can enter one item in each category to compete for a plaque.

The December meeting will be our Annual Christmas Party with optional gift exchange and Rock BINGO.

If you have any suggestions or ideas of what you would like to do for our 2023 meetings, please make suggestions to the Executive Board.

Keep in mind that dues are payable any time now until the end of the year. We have to send our dues and membership roster in to the NFMS by January, so we need to know who is going to be on our membership list for the next year.

BE PREPARED FOR NOVEMBER'S "I DID IT" CONTEST

WIN A PLAQUE FOR YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT.

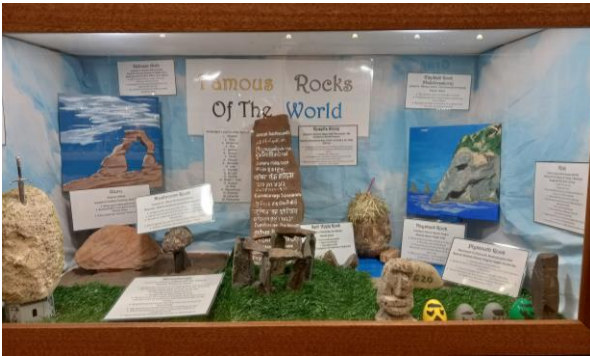
IT'S FUN AND IT'S EASY.

- ***CHOOSE SOMETHING YOU FOUND, SOMETHING YOU BOUGHT AND/OR SOMETHING YOU MADE IN THE LAST YEAR. (NOVEMBER 2021 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.***



Say Congratulations to our Junior Rock Star!

Teddy Bunch entered his display in the Northwest Federation and Portland Regional Competitive Contests in Hillsboro, Oregon this last weekend. He walked away with a blue ribbon, a trophy and two plaques! Way to Go!



A Guide to Jasper Stone

By Bob Jones August 29, 2022 [0](#)

Jasper stone varieties are found all over the world. It is one of the more colorful and varied lapidary stones. It's also found in a wide range of forms including banded, orbicular brecciated, curving and swirling. Since jasper varieties are found so widely, many are named after the location of discovery.

Jasper Stone Composition

Jasper is basically quartz but its micro-crystals can vary from quartz to chalcedony. The difference is the size and arrangement of the silicon dioxide molecules. In either form, jasper is slightly granular but is almost the hardness of regular quartz so it will develop a good luster when it's polished.

Because it is rich in microscopic crystals of metallic oxide, mainly iron oxide, these impurities can infiltrate the stone and are dominant in jasper's lovely colors with reds and yellows being the dominant hues.

Explosive Beginnings

Jasper is found in a variety of environments but is best seen in volcanic areas where it develops in and from volcanic ash deposits. Studies of deposits of colorful jasper indicate that once volcanic ash has been deposited by wind or flowing water it may be reheated by later volcanic activity. Given enough moisture and heat, the ash may become a clay-like material that is flexible enough to be influenced by ground movements that cause bending and folding of the layered clay

When well insulated by later hot flows, the ash gradually develops a colloid-like structure that is semi-fluid. This is important because in such conditions impurities will have a long time to develop micro-crystals. As molecules form, they have a natural penchant to attract to each other. This is how mineral crystals get their start. Once a few molecules attach, more molecules join.

Forming a Stone

They can join on all sides because the original molecules are suspended. Crystal growth happens in all directions and from all sides and results in the free form of a small rounded body called a spherulite.

This process happens again and again everywhere within the jasper colloid as spherulites simply form wherever there is enough impurity to provide growth. Such growth is not continuous as outside influences like heat and moisture can speed up or slow the radial growth.

When these spherulites are exposed by the lapidary or are near the surface they have the shape and design of small, round flower-like inclusions. Such attractive shapes are given names like poppy jasper. In deposits of undisturbed layered volcanic ash, the ash takes on a linear form of varying layers of alternating color depending on the impurities that are present. Before such jasper hardens, some ground movement can bend or fracture these layers forming undulating shapes or curving images. Severe cases form brecciated jasper.

Banded Jasper

Red Jasper

One of the most historically important and largest deposits of banded jasper occurs in the Mesabi Range of the Upper Midwest where alternating bands of bright red to yellow iron-rich hematite and black magnetite or other iron oxides were deposited. Along with the necessary iron ore that triggered America's Industrial Revolution, these ancient deposits are also producing amazing slabs of banded jasper-like rock that has been bent and curved in layers with alternating red, yellow and even black and metallic looking hues. These huge slabs are popular as decorative stones and can be sealed and used as tabletops and wall hangings, etc.

The name jasper is derived from the French word 'jaspre' which means spotted stone.

The formation of these deposits dates back to one of the earliest times in earth's history called the Great Oxygen Event that changed Earth's atmosphere from poisonous clouds of methane, ammonia and carbon dioxide to nitrogen and oxygen.

Varieties of Jasper Stone

Picture Jasper - Years ago during some road work in Oregon, fine linear jasper was found in a place near Biggs Junction. The jasper from here was immediately named Picture jasper since it is not only linear but the multi-colored layers often appear like landscapes, horizons and village scenes. The overall colors tend to be shades of brown to red, but are distinct enough to be very attractive.

Bruneau Jasper - Another jasper locality much better known for decades, Bruneau Canyon has become a major source of superb multi-hued brown jasper which formed in alternating light to dark brown layers of rounded nodules. With careful orientation and lapidary work, a Bruneau nodule will produce a large orbicular layering, bull's eyes and lovely alternating domed tan to brown cabochons.

Orbicular Jasper Varieties

Among all the jaspers, the more popular type is orbicular bloodstone. It is certainly the most colorful. When you first see an orbicular jasper, regardless of its source, you have to wonder how such a lovely flower-like pattern forms in what appears to be a solid jasper rock.

Poppy Jasper - One particularly colorful orbicular jasper is poppy jasper from near Morgan Hill, Santa Clara County, California, on the side of El Toro Mountain. The orbs are bright red in a shape that resembles a poppy blossom. What is remarkable is the number of orbs in a specimen. They are crowded against each other so much that the entire polished surface seems bright red.

Madagascar Varieties - Initially found in 1999, these are among the more colorful orbicular jaspers. It has a registered name of Ocean jasper because the earlier finds of this lovely jasper were on the northwest beaches of this country. Just about every color appears somewhere in patterns that are varied and always attractive. These jaspers are mined from veins that run through the sedimentary deposits in Madagascar. Mining is done in two localities, Kamby near the shore and further inland at Morovata a few miles away. Mining is done by locals and all the producing areas are claimed and off-limits to collectors.

Useful Jaspers

Massive Jasper - Massive jasper is often a dull monochromatic tan to brown and not particularly useful as a lapidary stone. Ancient tribesmen often used jasper as a hard, sharp weapon stone or for weapon points.

Black Granular Jasper - Few lapidary artists today know of the unusual type of jasper key to determining the purity of gold before modern chemistry appeared. Black granular jasper, called a touchstone, was used to streak a piece of gold to determine its purity by its yellow color. Today we'd refer to such a stone as a streak plate. Ancients knew gold could be adulterated with other metals like copper or silver and the only guide to the purity of a gold specimen was to streak the gold on a jasper touchstone to reveal the true color of the gold and judge its purity.

People who love to be involved in working with various forms of jasper are fortunate there are so many varieties to choose from. Their colors and varied designs and patterns can challenge every lapidary's creative juices and we all enjoy the results.