



Lake City Rockhound News

NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB

April 2009

Club Mailing Address—P.O. Box 1643 Hayden, ID 83835

Meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM

At Post Falls Senior Center, in the Dougall Room— 1215 E. 3rd. St. Post Falls, ID

The public is welcome.

www.amfed.org/nfms **DOWN LOAD YOUR NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER...**

www.northidahomineralclub.com...read your club newsletter on line.



Meeting on April 16, 2009 at 6:30 P.M.

Program will be presented by

Mike and Diane Rose - SNOWBIRD REPORT

Refreshments by Bev and Bob Bockman

Silent auction—show and tell. BRING STUFF!!!!

(NEXT MONTH Dave Waisman, Mineralogist)



The Panorama Gem and Mineral Club had its ninth show the last Fri. and Sat. of March, and it looked like the attendance was good. The displays were excellent—the grab bags and Wheel were very successful. Featured for the first time was a black light display built by show chairman, Bill Allen. It was very popular.

Quite a few North Idaho club members were spotted among the show goers, and **thank you** for supporting our Colville friends. Mike and Diane drove up with the Headrick's. All of us that drove back down on Saturday night were treated to **winter's last hurrah** in the form of snow and wind. ICK!!

With so many of our members there, it was possible to get a consensus on getting some grand prize material for our show, in addition to that we expect to be provided by the winner of our drawing. We saw some very desirable material. These will be on display at the April meeting. (I have been in contact with Hugh Martin, and he is feeling much better after his recent surgery, but I told him not to worry about providing the grand prize for our June show—we'll think about that later.) Bev B.

North Idaho Mineral Club March 19, 2009 start at 6:38 pm

Visitor Mel Haakinson New members Gary and Anna Provost were here. Treasurers report was made

Show Committee: 17 Paid dealers thus far. Will present show budget at the next meeting.. No TV ads this year. Need to know how many members want to put in a display so we know whether or not to borrow cases from Rock Rollers. Bob can bring them over if we borrow them. Need to consult with Steve L.

Field trip-- Pam and Dennis Hicks agreed to be chair persons. (With help from Roses's)

Gary and Anna Provost new members from Rathdrum have a sapphire claim in Montana. They propose a club field trip later this summer near Philipsburg. (more later in newsletter--ed)

NW Federation **mid-year meeting** in Kennewick on April 18, during the Lakeside Rock club Show. The AFMS-NFMS meeting and show will be in Billings in late July and through August 2..

Colville club show March 27-28. All attend if possible.

Washington Mineral Council, We are looking for someone to represent us and attend meetings. Had discussion bout remaining an affiliate, voted on and passed, so dues will be paid for 2009. Ev will receive the correspondence

James Finckbone reported that Gary Waters and his wife Diane, formerly of Silver Capital Arts, who had moved to Post Falls from Wallace hit a snow grader near Tensed. Gary is badly injured and Diane may not survive. Their shop is called Attic Treasures

Everett reported that the **Omnibus bill** died by one vote in the House but Senate made adjustments and sent it back to the House and it is expected to pass. (PS. It passed on March 25) American Land Access Association is against it. Everett says we should join as a club for \$50 per year. Motion was made, and accepted.

Bev reported that the **Blue Ribbon Coalition** also follow these land bills. The House leadership may slip the bill through without discussion or debate.

They suggest we call Senate and House members and oppose the Omnibus bill.
Bill Johnson, Sec.

Refreshment credits to Susan and Warren. Thank you!!

Will have "test" on rocks to identity and then a film on the Owyhee areas of Southern Idaho called **EXOTIC TERRANE** obtained from the NFMS library.. Excellent and educational video!!

MEMBERSHIP LIST FOR NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB AS OF APRIL 2009. REVIEW INFORMATION AND SUBMIT CORRECTIONS PLEASE.

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MEMBER NEWS

GARY AND ANNA PROVOST who have recently joined our club are remaining members but have relocated to Philipsburg, MT. where they will be opening a shop on May 1. They have a sapphire claim near there and the word is that we may be invited for a field trip there this summer. We'll wait to hear future developments, and wish them great success in their venture. **DENNIS AND PAM HICKS** are venturing into the rock show world as vendors. These two have more energy and ambition than I can comprehend, but we'll hope that their plans work out well. They are members of the Rock Rollers, also, and have agreed to lead our field trips this year.

Now—for some more word on the “politics” that affect us the most—that which has to do with land access for rock, mineral and fossil collecting. The latest Washington Mineral Council bulletin, the “Council Reporter”, had good information digested by Bob Pattie (one of the West Side Trustees) and printed by the editor Glenn Morita. Also, some pertinent information on some WA. localities that we use.

First—the Okanogan and Wenatchee Forest services are going to change the status of roads in the Cle Elum area with access seemingly unchanged at Red Top. The process is somewhat like Dept. of Natural Resources where **all roads will be considered closed unless posted “open”**. Bob Stoehr of the Wenatchee office is accepting input of what roads are being used for what purpose, as was pointed out to him, the proposal to post “open” at every jog in the roads for rockhounding would be an endless proposition. **THE MINERAL COUNCIL HAS BEEN INVITED TO WORK WITH THE TWO ENTITIES AND ATTEND HEARINGS.** The form is due **May 9 for input**—see Bob Pattie for more info. Address—

At George, it should be noted the **first diatom pit is CLOSED**. Economically, the company is looking at closing the second pit. Be advised, both pits may be chained closed in the near future, and, if so, **access is considered denied** with chained/gated enclosures.

OMNIBUS PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2009 (from WSMC March newsletter)

The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (H.R. 146/ S.22) was passed in Congress on March 24, 2009 and then signed by President Obama. The Act is made up of many individual actions by the various states and their representatives in Congress. This package of bills will protect two million acres (2,000,000) of Wilderness and 1000 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers, and prohibit new oil and gas development on 1,200,000 acres of public land in Wyoming. This is in addition to the Wilderness Areas that have been designated in the past. This act is about 1200 pages long with many different section and subsection. There are 15 major sections (Title) and they cover various department and organization in the federal government. Title VI- Department of the Interior Authorization and one of its subsections, "Subtitle D ~ Paleontological Resources Preservation" (starting with Section 6301) is of special interest to fossil and rock collectors. (1) **Casual Collecting is defined- The term "casual Collecting" means the collecting of a reasonable amount of common invertebrate and plant paleontological resources for non-commercial personal use, either by surface collection or the use of non-powered hand tools resulting in only negligible disturbance of the Earth's surface and other resources.** Section 6304 (2) **Causal collecting Exception - The Secretary may allow causal collecting without a permit on Federal Land controlled or administered by the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Forest Service, where such collection is consistent with the laws governing the management of those Federal Land and this sub-title.** (page 478 of 1248)

The Altmire amendment was added to the Act before it was passed in Congress, it was added at the end of Title V as Subtitle E - Effect of Title, Section 5401 and it states (a) Effect on access for Recreational Activities - Nothing in this title shall be construed as affecting access for recreational activities otherwise allowed by law or regulation, including hunting, fishing, or trapping. Subtitle D -Effect of Title, Section 8301, this wording is the same as section 5401.

Additional information provide with the Act was a set of questions and answers regarding the Act. **One question stated that this bill will harm amateur paleontologists and rock collectors. The answer; This is not true, any collecting that amateur paleontologists and rock collectors can legally do today will still be permitted under Subtitle D, (discussed above).** Additional note on this question, "The Forest Service currently does allow causal collecting by amateur without permit, but there is not anything formally recognizes this activity. We see that this act will allow this activity which is a good thing for the casual collector." Section 6311 (93) states that nothing in this subtitle shall be construed to Apply to, or require a permit for casual collecting of rock, mineral, or invertebrate or plant fossil that is not protected under this subtitle.

This information is available on the internet, the particular file that I have been using is: <http://s22.w-w-h.org>. There are a number of site that have this information you can just type in Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. **Bob Pattie**

(bold type is mine—ED)

When is enough, ENOUGH?

I am asking this question as I review the latest variety of so called "Public Lands" bills to protect our public lands. The more I read about our public lands the more I question the definition of public, —is it something for the general public or is it for those that agree with the current political views of special interest groups. With this article, my intent is for each of you to decide for yourself what a recommended approach is to the Public Lands usage and to take whatever action you feel appropriate. I will try to give you enough information to at least get you start-ing in reviewing the available information. In this article I will list the various activities that I have heard about in the last couple of weeks.

Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009- This is a government bill that has passed congress and signed by President Obama in late March. This is a combination of many bills that our senators and representatives have submitted the last couple of years and they didn't pass individually. It adds to the Wil-derness areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers and other protected areas. It **does have some good words on casual rock collecting** in some of the rest of the BLM, and FS lands. I have written a separate article on this Act. (printed on page 4—ed.)

Okanogan- Wenatchee National Forest - The Okanogan and Wenatchee are working together on a Travel Management Plan for their forests. They are in the first stages of developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the designation of the many roads and trails in these two national forests. They are looking for any comment from the public that should be considered in the writing of the EIS. You can e-mail your com-ments to: okawen-travel-management@fs.fed.us. They are looking for specific roads and trails that we use to get to our collecting sites. They have maps on their web page that will help determine the areas for inputs. The person in charge of this project is Bob Stoehr and is located in the Wenatchee office.

You should be aware that Senator Patty Murray and Congress-man David Reichert have introduced a bill that would add more than 22,000 acres of Wilderness adjacent to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness area. It would also designate parts of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie and Pratt rivers as "Wild and Scenic". The map I have seen regarding this area, places some of the wilderness area along 1-90, which I question, if this really falls under the "untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain" definition of an Wilderness Area. These two individ-uals, last year, got the Big Sky Wilderness area near Index and supported the Omnibus Bill and now looking to place more land under the protection of the Federal Government.

Earlier this year the Department of Natural Resource (Washington State Land Management) passed their new Recreation and Public Use rules. This new set of rules affects the roads and trails we travel on to get to our collecting sites. **It also states that a permit is needed if more than 25 individuals are using a particular site. Bob Pattie**

Is there anyone in our club that would like to attend the Mineral Council meetings??? as our representative? Sounds like they are growing more pro-active this year. Diane Rose is mentioned as a Trustee, and she has been WSMC President...Anyone else?? It only takes about 3 1/2 hours to get to Ellensburg for the meetings held twice a year. **Let Mike know.,** Bob and I have done it.....didn't hurt a bit!

MAKE PLANS TO GO TO THE **LAKESIDE GEM AND MINERAL CLUB ANNUAL SHOW** AT THE BENTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS IN KENNWICK—BUILDING #1, 10TH AND CHEMICAL DR. ———— AND WHILE YOU ARE THERE **DO NOT OMIT A VISIT TO THE EASTBENTON CO. HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM AT 205 Keeway-din Dr.** WHERE YOU WILL **VIEW AN 8TH WONDER OF THE WORLD**—A LAPIDARISTS DREAM—A COMPLETE (very large) FLOOR MADE OF SEMI-PRECIOUS STONE AND PETRIFIED WOOD phone (509) 582-7704 open Tues -Sat afternoons

(The show takes place the **18th and 19th of April. CARPOOL!** IT IS A GREAT OUTING, AND ALSO THE PLACE WHERE THE MID-YEAR MEETINGS OF THE NFMS IS BEING HELD. YOU CAN ATTEND AS AN OBSERVER WHILE BEING REPRESENTED BY EVERETT HEADRICK. Be v represents the Panorama club.

On the same dates there is a **rock show in Yakima, and the POW POW field trip to Saddle Mountain.** What a weekend to break forth from winter. Have fun! (If anyone wants to go and needs a ride just for the Saturday, call Bev and Bob. We have room for two.)

PLEASE CHECK WITH SUSA N REKOW TO GET YOUR NAME BADGE IF NONE HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU. ALSO, LET HER KNOW IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVING YOUR COPY OF THE NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER IN THE MAIL. If you would rather download a copy from the NFMS

Tips and Hints—many sources

Next time you are on a field trip during the tick season, take along a roll of scotch tape. If you find a tick on your clothing or body, trap it with a piece of tape. It is also useful for removing fastened ticks. Save the imprisoned fastened tick so it can be identified when you reach home. Also watch for snakes. Don't reach under rocks, etc, without rapping it with your walking stick, digging stick, or whatever.

Forest Rangers advise that after killing a rattlesnake, you make certain that at least its head is buried. Wasps and yellow jackets are meat eaters and when feasting on the head of a rattler, may get the venom in their system. Then, when they sting someone, enough venom is in the sting to make people very ill, and it can become fatal.

To ward off rattlesnakes wet the bottom of your pant legs or shoestrings with turpentine. They detest the odor and will go the other way. Pour around campsite and they will not cross it.

Here is an easy, quick, and efficient method for complete privacy when sleeping in a SUV. Take along a bar of Bon Ami, wrapped in a wash cloth. When you want to retire, dampen the cloth and apply a good coat of Bon Ami to the windows and windshield. It dries white and opaque. The next morning you can wipe it away with a clean cloth and you have a shiny clean glass for safer driving.

Never throw a plastic bag into a campfire. It can heat-seal and explode with the violence of a shotgun blast. Anyone standing close by can be sprayed with the molten plastic and be severely burned.

French herbalist, Maurice Messeque says "if you hang a bouquet of dried tomato leaves in all the rooms of your RV or house you will not be troubled by flies, mosquitoes, or spiders.

THE FIRE AGATES OF ARIZONA

At first glance, Fire Agates are not impressive. They appear as a reddish-brown rock covered with a coat of chalcedony. When this covering is removed and the stone is polished, there is a burst of rainbow colors. The glowing red, yellows, oranges, blues, purples and greens are responsible for the "Fire Agate".

The cause of the fire is still a puzzle. Some collectors attribute the iridescence to the presence of minute plated crystals of goethite sprinkled with layers of chalcedony.

The Fire Agate is rare and the play of color under the chalcedony places it in the gem class. It is about seven in hardness on the Mohs scale, which makes it suitable for gemstones. Unlike Opal, it does not crack, lose its color and is not affected by moisture or lack of proper care. From Rock Rollers 6/04 via The Petrified Log 7/97 «<<»»

OFFICERS FOR 2009 NIMC

Mike Rose—President

Warren Price—Vice President

Secretary - Bill Johnson

Treasurer — Susan Rekow

Federation director—Everett Headrick

Federation Delegate—open

WSMC Delegate-Open

Committees for 2009 NIMC

Hospitality - Bertha McPherson and Bob Bockman

Field Trips—Dennis and Pam Hicks

Membership—Susan Rekow

Show Chairman-Bev Bockman and Steve Livingstone

Newsletter Editor—Bev Bockman

Program Chairman-Bev Bockman AND CLUB MEMBERS

Famous petrified forests

Our petrified forests are generally of three types. The first type has been showered and completely covered by volcanic ash leaving the trees standing in an upright position. The Petrified Forest of Yellowstone National Park is an example of this type. The trees are standing in their original state where they grew many millions of years ago. The forest of Yellowstone covers more than 40 square miles which is the largest area known. Another unusual feature of the Yellowstone Petrified forests is that many thousands of fossilized leaves, needles, cones, and seeds of over one hundred different kinds of trees and shrubs have been found there. It is the only place in the world where 27 successive layers of petrified forms can be seen.

The story behind the Yellowstone Petrified Forest is that an old volcano began to erupt and continued for some twenty years. Mineral bearing waters had begun to petrify the once living forest. In the span of a couple of hundred years, a new forest began to appear and grew for the next five hundred years. Then, the old volcano erupted again. This process reoccurred twenty-seven times as twenty-seven distinct layers of buried forest have been exposed in the Fossil Forest on the south side of Laramie River Valley. An example of a well-preserved stump can be seen a few feet from the highway along "The petrified Road". Along the northern slopes of Specimen Ridge there are many layers of petrified tree trunks. About two-thirds of the way up on the eastern edge is a group of upright standing trunks of unusual beauty and size just as they grew many millions of years ago. The largest of these petrified stumps is a redwood over five feet in diameter and believed to be approximately one thousand years old when burned by volcanic debris.

A second type of petrified forest is believed to be the result of logs jamming at the mouth of a river, sinking into the mud and becoming petrified. The petrified Forest of Arizona is an example of this type. Driftwood may be deposited on the shore by the winds. Generally fossil wood, which at one time was driftwood, does not have bark. This fact may account for the lack of bark on the wood in Arizona. The Arizona forests are between one hundred and two hundred million years old. One stone log, twenty feet wide and forty feet thick flung across a ravine forms a natural bridge - the famed Agate Bridge. The Arizona Petrified forests are composed of different forests varying in coloring. The Rainbow forest is a multiplicity of colors; the Blue forest is mostly carbonized sections; and the Black forest is brilliantly black. Many logs of white, some almost transparent, make up the Second Forests, while the Third Forest displays large specimens as long as one hundred sixty feet.

The fossil wood is of three general types: 1. Jasperized wood predominately bright red, some translucent and variegated with a riot of colors 2. Small amounts of bright red wood are found often with areas of nearly colorless quartz 3. Sections of dark or nearly black wood.

The opalized wood forests of central Washington run a close second to the famed forests of Arizona. An outstanding feature in Washington is the only fossilized ginkgo trees known in the world are found there. The well known Ginkgo Petrified Forest is of the driftwood type. Of the ten thousand fossilized trees in this forest, only six have been identified as Ginkgo trees. The Ginkgo is one of our oldest and most primitive types of trees, a direct ancestor of our modern tree, and is remarkable in that it has survived through millions of years while other species have died out.

Nevada boasts of the largest petrified tree known in the world. It is fourteen feet in diameter and nearly three hundred feet long. Another distinction in Nevada is the woods of Virgin Valley are fully opalized with the "fire" of the fire opal.

A third type is that of scattered woods that may be covered in some manner, to become solidified later. For instance, rising waters in a lake may completely cover a forest and protect it from decay. Later on petrification may preserve the trees permanently. Some of the woods in California, Nevada, Oregon, and Central Washington have this origin.

From Southwest gem 9/03 via The Glacial Drifter 3/03 via The Clackamette Gem, Golden Spike News 7/01 and Strata Gem 9/01

Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote "a man is like a bit of Labrador spar which has no luster as you turn it in your hand until you come to a particular angle, then it shows deep and beautiful color." via Hy Grader 6/99 The Tumbler 9/03

The loveliest thing about stones is that they cannot talk, but impregnate meaning in their silence. Sun Zhaojun via Gneiss Times 3/01

Rocks Have Something for Everyone—The anteater has no teeth so it swallows ants whole. Imbedded in the thick muscular walls of its stomach are tiny pebbles it has collected, which serve to grind up the hard bodies of the insects. Diamonds and gold nuggets have been found in the gizzards of chickens, used for the same purpose. The alligator swallows rocks for a different reason; to provide ballast to keep him on an even keel in the water. The sea water uses rocks to crush shellfish on his chest while he floats serenely on his back. Via Rock Rollers 2/02, Pick and Chisel 12/84, Tumbler 8/03

Lake City Rockhound News

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CLUB WEB SITE

www.northidahomineralclub.com

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meeting, and give to Everett

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2009 Rock and Gem Shows in WA., OR. , ID. & MT

April 18-19 [LAKESIDE GEM AND MINERAL CLUB](#)—KENNEWICK,WA

APRIL 18-19 YAKIMA,, WA.

April 25th-26th GRAYS HARBOR — ELMA, WA.

MAY 9TH-10TH BOZEMAN, CLUB—BOZEMAN MT.

[JULY 29-30 AUG.1-2 BILLIINGS MT. AFMS/NFMS SHOW](#)

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND

SUPPORT YOUR FELLOW ROCKHOUNDS AND ROCK CLUBS.

[CONSULT www.amfed.org/nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms) FOR SHOW DETAILS