



# LAKE CITY ROCKHOUND NEWS

Meeting at LAKE CTY CENTER 1916 Lakewood Drive 667-4628  
 6 PM om the third Thursday of each month. VISITORS WELCOME!  
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DOWNLOAD THE NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER AT [www.amfed.org/nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms)  
The Web Site for our clu b is w w w.nort hidah omineral clu b.com

**PROGRAM FOR JULY 17, 2014**  
**PICNIC AT DALTON PARK**  
 Southeast corner of 4th and Dalton, behind  
 Meet at 5 PM and eat at 6 PM  
 The club will furnish chicken and drinks Members furnish side  
**BRIEF BUSINESS MEETING, AND GRAND SILENT AU**  
 during and after dinner..

**PROGRAM FOR AUGUST WILL BE PRESENTED BY LEON  
 AGEE, ON ORIENTATION  
 OF THE IDAHO ALMANDINE STAR GARNET. He gave this  
 program to the Rock Rollers last month, but his delivery  
 was hampered by "bad" sound system, so he is looking**

**forward to talking to us in our smaller room. Bring your garnets that you have questions about**

NIMC Minutes 6/19/2014

Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM by President Dale Ruperd. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Bill Johnson made the motion, seconded by Dale Ruperd, that the minutes be approved as written in the Newsletter and passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Show Chairman [Mike Burton] report:

Show final accounting: 727 paid admissions. 94 coupons used

Vendor fees: \$4977

Great ads Mike. Beverly stated they were the same as last year's ads.

Treasurers, [Carl Chapin] report:

SHOW: Entry fees: \$1361 Grand Prize: \$220 Kids Corner: \$226.75 Silent auction: \$363.35

Grand Total: \$2170.60

There will be more bills coming in that *have* not been delivered to the Club as of yet.

More advertising billing as well as show pot luck supplies to name a couple.

Carl added that the Fair Board raised the fees for the building by 18.5 which is a *very* large increase over last year. He also brought up there were numerous problems affecting the Show outcome; staff demands on Dealers while downloading their "wares" to the show building, parking poorly marked. Possibly adding to the downturn in Show attendance. There were other problems also mentioned in the discussion from the floor. There were conflicting reports on how the staff interacted with Club members. It was suggested by Carl that he would draft a letter to address some of the issues discuss tonight. HE will bring the draft to the Club picnic in July at Dalton City Park on July 17 at 6:00 P. M. The letter will be discuss to decide if the Club wishes to forward Carl's letter to the Kootenai County Fair Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

The PICNIC IS AT DALTON CITY PARK, 4<sup>TH</sup> AND DALTON AVE. at 6:00 P.M. The club will supply chicken, and drinks that were left over from the Show potluck. Carl Chapin will go at 4:00 P.M. to hold the space for the Club. There will be a BIG silent auction at the picnic.

Corey Brenner requested that we have a program on Crystal shapes. Karel Mrazek and Diane Rose each *have* charts showing mineral/crystal shapes.

Diane will bring charts to the picnic. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Rose, Secretary Pro Tem



**ROCKS FOR About 8000 lb. polished Brazilian agate at \$1/lb. Other**  
**SALE: rocks and miner-**  
**als at up to \$3/lb. By appointment only—509-239-4418. George—**  
**Che ney/Medical Lake**

area. Mike Shaw of Rock Rollers has seen the sale items and says it is high quality.

## **MESSAGE FROM DALE RUPERD—NIMC PRESIDENT**

This is my first letter for the newsletter, so let me know how I'm doing. Let me start by letting you know a little about me. I was born in Lodi, CA. but raised in Upper Michigan. I joined the Air Force and was stationed at Fairchild where I met my wife Pat. After I was discharged we moved to Idaho where we now live. I got started in lapidary about the time I retired from the city of Coeur d'Alene water department, and that was 8 years ago.

Where does the time go?

My first piece of equipment was a tumbler that I got at a yard sale for \$5, and then my wife got me a trim saw for my birthday. Then I got myself a faceting machine and I was hooked. Now I am president of the club!

I do need to thank everyone who has helped me in this club. I would be lost. This is my first attempt at any office, and this is out of my comfort zone. I would also like to especially thank Diane, Bev, Mike, Carl and Karel for keeping me out of trouble—Bill for keeping the silent auctions going, and a special thanks to Everett for appointing me as a Federation Delegate. It got me started as an officer..

Finally, I would like to thank everybody for all the help at the 2013 show. I thought it was a good show.

The next meeting is our annual potluck picnic at Dalton City Park On the 17th, and I hope to see you all there.

Your President, Dale Ruperd.

## **WORD FROM JUDI ALLISON RE NFMS SHOW IN HERMISTON 15-16=17 OF AUGUST—**

There will be consignment at the silent auction with a 60-40 split (60% for the owner. There will also be tailgating on Sunday from 8-11 AM in the parking lot....this is only for NFMS members. (which we are!)

Look at the information provided in the Northwest Newsletter about the show—as far as location, etc. (I will be going...ed.)

***Word has been received from Sandra that she and her family have relocated suddenly to Arizona, so Diane has kindly agreed to accept the Secretary***

**Most of you who are interested in digging crystals in the Lolo Pass area are probably aware of the closure of the area by the Forest Service. This closure was put in place in April, but only recently revealed to us “rockhounds”. The Washington Mineral Council had scheduled a trip there as had the Rock Rollers. The latter trip has been diverted to another area provided by the Hamilton MT. club, but now the ALAA is involved to try and get the Lolo area reopened. This is just another example of taking and taking!!! our public lands. This has been an area that has been used by**

**RUBIES FOR JULY: The birthstone for July is the ruby, the most treasured among gemstones. Large rubies are even more rare than large diamonds or emeralds.**

**Ruby and its cousin the sapphire are both a form of the mineral corundum. That mineral is normally a drab gray, but on a few occasions will be red, and is called ruby. The color is caused by chromium oxide. All other colors of corundum are called sapphires—yellow, orange, green, blue, black and purple. Emery is an abrasive used for sandpaper and finger nail files, and is the result of corundum that occurs with hematite, magnetite or spinel.**

**The word ruby is Latin for “ruber” which means red. Ruby, then was used to describe any red stone—anything from red tourmaline, red spinel or red garnet. Many of the famous stones are not rubies but other stones. The famous Timur ruby of Queen Victoria was in fact a red spinel and not a real ruby.**

**Rubies were very treasured gems in the Ancient Orient and thought to contain a “drop of blood from the earth itself. It was thought that the stones were self luminous and they were often referred to as the “stone which glows”. An old Chinese legend tells the story of an Emperor who once used a large ruby to light his chamber. In fact, rubies can be fluorescent, glowing red or orange in UV light and even emit orange flashes when sawed.**

**In ancient times Burmese and Ceylonese thought that sapphires were “unripe rubies” and if they buried the stone after a period of time it would grow to a deep red ruby.**



**During the Middle Ages it was a popular belief that rubies could bring good health as well as guarding against anger, arguments, and if the stone appeared to turn darker in color one must be on the lookout for some form of misfortune—even death. A legend tells that Catherine of Aragon, first wife of King Henry VIII, predicted her death by seeing her ruby darken. (con't page 5)**

From page 4)

Medicinally, it was thought that rubies could cure bleeding wounds.

Rubies are rare—especially large ones. ...there are only a few in history. In the 13th century book by Marco Polo appears a story about a beautiful gem that he believed to be a ruby. It belonged to the King of Ceylon and was said to be 9 inches long and as wide as a mans arm! So impressed was the Emperor of China that he offered an entire city to the Ceylon king if he would only give the ruby to him., But the King of Ceylon valued his rare gem and refused the offer.

Rubies are found only in a few places in the world—Upper Burma is one of the most famous sources for the deep red rubies known as pigeon's blood which are very rare. Darker brown- ish red rubies come from Thailand. Both countries have a ruby as their national stone. More recently Tanzania has become a source for rubies.

Synthetic rubies have been produced since a process was invented in France in 1891. A chem- ist found that by melting a suitably colored powder in an oxy-hydrogen flame and allowing the hot rain to build up a s ( ; mite it could be cut up into decorative gems. In modern times ru- bi p ( lleive been grown by hydrothermal; methods, crystalized from molten So ( ons and " ( v " from pots of fused alumina. Even though synthetic, these are valued for their beau- ty ia Dusty Rocks Vol. 50 #7 2009

### **The Magic Metal Aluminum**

Aluminum, discovered just a little~ over 150 years ago and manufactured commercially about half that long, ranks behind only iron and steel among metals serving human kind.

It is incredibly versatile, one ounce spread over a Mylar sheet keeps a camper warm, a few ounces over an asbestos suit keeps firefighter cool. Pulverized aluminum in a liquid medium forms a durable paint, reduced to power; it becomes rocket fuel and a high explosive. It is also used in trucks, trains, houses, skyscrapers and ships. It can be spun into aluminum transmission cables for vital electric over grids.

Aluminum properties are so diverse they almost seem to belong to several different metals. For example, in pure form it is soft though, only a third the weight. The instant aluminum is exposed to air its surface acquires a transparent film of "rust" that seals the interior against further corrosion. It can be rolled, forged, split, sheared and shaped by extruding, forced through a die of almost any shape. By drawing aluminum you can have a wire spider-web thin.

Once made it can be recycled over and over using only a small amount of the energy used in making it originally; the smelting process used the first time in its manufacture requires enormous amounts of energy.

Unlike familiar copper or iron, aluminum does not occur naturally in metallic form. It existed only in combination with other elements, primarily oxygen, with which it forms an extremely hard oxide known as alumina. When tinted by traces of other elements, alumina can take the form of gems such as rubies and sapphires. Corundum is aluminum oxide containing 52.9 aluminum and 47.1 oxygen. The Washington Monument in Washington D.C., is crowned by a pyramid of aluminum - a hundred ounces created in 1884, making it one of the largest chunks ever.

via The Quarry, 4/01; via The Gemrock, 3/01

**Vonnie Dillon, a member of the Rock Rollers who is an accomplished silversmith has  
Place-Roses' shop  
\$75 for class and \$15 for silver All tools provided  
10 x 14 or 18 x 25 mm cab (or she will**

**The first**

Officers of NIMC for 2014 as of

July 1, 2014 President-Dale

Ruperd—664-2712

Vice President

—————

Treasurer- Carl Chapin

773-9049 Secretary-Diane

Rose—659-6173

Show Chairman 2014—Mike Burton

772-9347 Show Chairman- 2015—

Committees etc.

Newsletter and Membership-Bev Bock man

773-5384 Programs—club members

Federation Director—Bill

PAINTING ON ROCKS—ANIMALS, FLOWERS, ETC. TO BE OFFERED BY MARILYN KOHLER. She will do a class anytime, so lets get with it! Lots of fun, and great items for the show prizes. She has most of the materials needed—I have some great river rocks and all the acrylic paints and brushes are available. Let's talk seriously about this. Diane will host the get-to-gethers in their shop. Need to schedule with Marilyn and Diane.

(I did not know this but ) 50 years ago in 1954, every battleship was equipped with a full lapidary shop? Among the armed forces , lapidary was a thriving activity, with various branches of the U.S. armed services maintaining gem cutting and jewel craft programs. Check out the Lapidary Journal web site (?) for more archived information at <http://lapidaryjournal.com/archive/50>. Frank Posthuma has told me many times that he practice lapidary in Germany while stationed there. Also the base at Ft. Lewis has a lapidary shop. What are we doing to encourage young men and women to take up the lapidary hobby? inated on mili- tary bases and ships? Have computers replaced our ability to produce a thing of beauty? Via Skagit Gems 3/05 and The Tum- bler 7/05

## HINTS AND TIPS:

**STABILIZING POROUS STONES**—If you would like to try your luck at stabilizing porous stones, such as turquoise so that it can be cut and polished, the *Silvery Colorado Rock Club* offers the following advice. Take a jar with a lid and add one pint of acetone. To this add the complete contents of both the resin and hardener tubes of epoxy glue. Mix well. Add well dried stones. Cover the jar and let it sit for four days. Remove the stones and allow a week for them to dry. They should now be ready to work. Via Pegmatite 5/01

**TO POLISH ONYX**—To polish onyx, polish in the usual manner—then dip in a mixture of 3 teaspoons of water and 1/2 tsp of oxalic acid. Then polish. Via The Rockpile 6/89

Saran wrap does not stick to epoxy. Use it under work to stop it from sticking. Via the Rock pile 6/90

All via MW F Newsletter 1 0/2 00 4

## History Of Wire Wrapping by M. H. Case, Sr.

Wire wrap jewelry has recently gained popularity among all groups of peoples. For a small investment, any person can have a unique piece of wearable artwork. Bold, angular designs or smooth flowing curves can change a common gemstone into an heirloom. Ancient Phoenicians are credited with the creation of wire wrap jewelry, but the art goes back nearly 1,000 years earlier.

In the Biblical record, detailed instructions are given to Moses to construct the tabernacle and the priestly garments and attire, including Aaron's breastplate. In Exodus gems are listed; sardius (ruby), topaz, carbuncle, emerald, sapphire, diamond, jacinth, agate, amethyst, beryl, onyx and jasper. All were to be set in gold filigree.

Filigree was gold or silver hammered into thin sheets, then cut into thin strips and the edges filed smooth, thus making wire.

The wire was woven into a basket or filigree and set into the breastplate. Later in Exodus, more detailed instructions were given about setting other gemstones into the rest of the priestly garments. Biblical scholars have placed this event near 1446 BC, nearly 1,000 years ahead of the Phoenicians.

There was a change in the Egyptian sarcophagus around 1900 BC, about the time that Joseph traveled to Egypt and brought his family there to avoid the famine in Israel. A sarcophagus was layered with fine sheets of gold prior to that time, but about 1900 to 1800 BC the sarcophagus changed to include woven strands of gold and silver, suggesting that the Hebrew artists brought this art form to their new homeland.

Wire was produced this way through the rise of the Phoenician empire. Phoenician culture thrived on arts and performance.

As a semi-nomadic group of people, they took their art forms across the known world. At the height of the Phoenician Empire from 1250-500 BC their jewelry was prized throughout the world. When the Greek navy came to power, the Phoenician trade started to dwindle and finally was engulfed totally by the rise of the Roman Empire. Although Roman culture was to absorb other art and cultural ideas into their own, the wire wrap art was abandoned for more traditional silversmith techniques.

The earliest reference to drawn wire was in the 8th century in France. During the Medieval period, knights brought wire back to England to make chains and mail for their armor. Gold and silver wire were drawn in France and transported back to England. The earliest mention of wire introduced in England was 1465. Wire wrapping was limited to fastening crucifixes and other religious symbols to lanyards and chains.

During the late 1800's the Bohemian culture used wire to string chips of polished glass and stone beads to make necklaces and bracelets. This was popular among the European aristocracy for nearly 50 years. These hand-forged chains were so popular that if you were found not to have an authentic Bohemian piece of jewelry, you were shunned and scorned.

From 1837 to 1901 in the Victorian Age, the most popular pieces of jewelry were the cameo. Wire art combined the two most popular forms of jewelry of the time: sculpture and cameo. The truest form of wire art sculpture has only recently been seen as artists introduce this art form into almost every culture of America. Hundreds of artists now create rings, pendants, pins, hair barrettes, brooches, bracelets and stick pins. Modern wire artists combine gemstones, beads, antiques and even mineral specimens with gold, silver and gold-filled wire. Some artist even combine different types of metal for even more unique work.

via Gneiss Times, 2/05; via Rock Scoop, 2/04; from Calumet Gems, 11/03

I filled this space with something that has vanished!! So be it! I'm pooped!! ED.

LAKE CITY ROCKHOUND NEWS

Bev Bockman

,Ed.. P.O.Box

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NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB

Affiliations:

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL  
SOCIETIES THE NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF  
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES S.C.R.I.B..E.  
ALAA

**2014 ROCK & GEM SHOWS IN WA., OR., ID. AND MT.**

**\*\*CONSULT [www.amfed.org / nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms) for show details**

**JULY 18-20 OREGON COAST AGATE CLUB NEW PORT. OR**

**AUG. 8-10 FAR WEST GEM SOC -NORTH BEND, OR.**

**AUG. 8-10 PORT TOWNSEND CLUB- PORT TOWNSEND, WA.**

**AUG. 15-17-HATROCKHOUNDS-HERMISTON, OR.**

**NFMS ANNUAL MEETING**

**SEPT. 13-14 CLALLAM CO. GEM PORT ANGELES, WA**





