



Lake City Rockhound News

NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB

FEBRUARY 2011

P.O. Box 1643 Hayden, ID 83835

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

See the NFMS web site at www.amfed.org/nfms

See OUR web site for the club at www.northidahomineralclub.com

ON THURSDAY, MARCH 17TH

WE WILL BE MEETING AT

LAKE CITY SENIOR CENTER

1916 LAKEWOOD DRIVE

667-4628

For those who do not know this location. Drive south on Northwest Blvd to the first traffic light by the Riverstone development, turn left at the light and go up the hill about a block. The Senior Center is on the right. We can get into the Center by 6:15 6:15 to 8:15 Meeting and Program)

BRING YOUR FAVORITE SPECIMEN OF PETRIFIED/ AGATIZED WOOD TO THE NEXT MEETING. TELL US WHERE YOU GOT IT, WHAT IT IS, AND WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU

There will be a short program based on the information in this news-letter about petrified wood. COFFEE, COOKIES AND SILENT AUCTION

There will also be a prize based on your “number” on the sign-up sheet.

FEBRUARY 17, 2011 —MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB.

Warren opened the meeting and introduced Dean Yongue, a geologist and surveyor who has worked and lived many places. He gave a power point presentation on the Phoenix Star Mine in the Silver Valley, which is being reactivated. The work involved surveying and documenting the condition of the area, working underground. The description of what goes on in these areas was very interesting, and he had lots of information on other mines he has worked at in the past in Alaska and other places. Raffle tickets were given out for some written information he had brought, and he had ore samples from the Phoenix Star.

Some of the other local places he spoke of were the Lucky Strike mine out of Mullan, and the Bedroom Mine in Murray, ID. under the old hotel. Everyone enjoyed this “lecture”—Mr. Yongue also gives workshops and may probably be seen and heard at the rock show in Spokane in April.

The minutes were approved as they appeared in the newsletter, followed by the treasurer’s report.

Show Report: at least 5 case liners must be constructed by the middle of May, starting in March. This project will be headed by Bev, as she has made them before. There are now 22 confirmed vendors and a small list in waiting, probably for next year.

Field Trip: February 28 — to the Lair at SCC in Spokane to hear Jeff Scovil—and see his beautiful pictures of jewels and minerals. He is world famous for his work with rocks and minerals. Car pool from Post Falls City Hall at 5:30 PM. The lecture begins at 7 PM, and is the second in the Geology Series at the college for this year.

Ideas for spring field trips are needed. Our early trip is usually to Saddle Mt. For wood, as soon as it is warm enough in April. Bob volunteered to lead the trip though he can no longer help with the digging.

Old Business: We must decide on a charitable donation to help on a local level. This will take place after the rock show in June—after the bills are paid. Several suggestions were made, to be decided later.

Discussion of filing with IRS to maintain our non-profit status. Cannot be done before Dec. 31 of each year but must be done by May 15, and if overlooked there is a “grace period” of three years before the non-profit status is revoked. Not a good thing to do.

Lands issues: Everett presented information from the Blue Ribbon Coalition, American Lands Association and the Idaho Recreation Council. There are almost too many issues to name, but close to home is a redevelopment plan for the Sawtooth area. The Wild Lands proposal by Salazar has come under fire from all our elected Idaho representatives in congress. Write to them in support!

There will be a public meeting in Cd’A on March 22 re forest planning. What will be the impact on public lands and our use of them, with input from the attendees. More from Ev at the March meeting.

Mike Burton: Betty McGlinhair’s book on FOSSILS OF IDAHO is \$15—also, a CD for 1\$15.

A new lapidary supply company has moved into our region, located in Stevensville, MT. See their web

Continued from page 2—minutes of Feb 17 meeting.

-page at joshualapidary.biz. Hope to have them at the 2012 show.

Suggestion made to add a list of old mines to the newsletter or the web site.

Rockhound stickers for vehicles or letters, etc. available for \$.10 for small and \$.50 for large.

Rock Rollers show on our events page—you'll see the news on the show April 8-10

Everett introduced speaker Tom Crimmons—a former rock club member: Member of ALAA, "Idaho Recreation Council, Trails Consultant, Land Use Advocate and Blue Ribbon Coalition Director. His talk centered on Land Advocacy. There are lots of groups whose land use is threatened. The Idaho Recreation Council meets three times a year in Boise. Trails are being lost, up to 70%. The 3rd street boat ramp loss at McEuen concerns about 33,000 boaters.

Idaho legislation includes about \$4 million for roads. 5% of the gas tax is going back into trails, which is a success. Also mentioned was youth training for working on roads, ATV's to be limited for hunting, many special interest groups are involved—that mean accommodating cultural differences as well as interests.~~~~~

Mr Yongue's raffle tickets with pamphlets for Denny Creek Crystals and Hansen Creek scepters was awarded to Donni Moen.

We will need to reconsider our meeting place at the March meeting. Meeting adjourned for silent auction and refreshments provided by Joan Gundlach and guest Svetlana Miles, and Bill Johnson. Bev furnished coffee, and Warren brought juice. Submitted by Yolanda Rosales, Secretary

Field trips Bob will lead a **field trip to Saddle Mountain either the Saturday of April 23 or 30. At least 4 people** must sign up and plan to car pool so the gas money may be split among several people. Bob knows where to dig, but won't be doing much actual earth moving. Bring rock hammer, bucket, small shovel and gloves. Wear boots if you have them and tuck your pants into them as it is beginning of tick season, though the grass up on the mountain is not high (and I have never had a tick on me from there.) Bring lunch and water, and anything else you need may be purchased at the store in Mattawa.

We have been invited by Mike Shaw to go with the Rock Rollers on a **trip in June to Riverside, WA. to get thulite**. I'll bring some samples from our last trip there a couple of years ago. It is a private claim and the owner will lead us in. The thulite is \$1 per pound. It is really pretty and takes a nice polish.—pink and green. The date has not yet been finalized—we'll keep you posted.

The Rock Rollers have quite a few field trips planned this year, and we always are welcome to join them if Mike knows ahead of time. (Bev can be your inside agent as to where and when.)

Also, the Panorama club in Colville welcomes us on their outings which occur about 3 times a month, starting in mid April and depending on the weather. We'll try to get a list, so we can plan.

PANORAMA CLUB ROCK SHOW—"WHAT ON EARTH IS IT?"—APRIL 1 & 2 Try and attend!! Car pool! Flyers at the meeting on the 17th

I have come across a wonderful web site. Access www.about.com/geology, and be prepared for some great information and pictures! The rock pictures gallery is wonderful and the information about various rocks (MANY EXAMPLES) in the metamorphic, sedimentary and igneous classifications, as well as pictures. If you've always sort of known, but not quite—look at the web site. You'll thank me. Even includes fossils and fossilized wood and plants. Ed.

I will bring three books about petrified wood to the meeting on March 17 for those members who are interested, and have not seen them, to look at. **And don't forget to bring a specimen with you to discuss.**

1. IDENTIFYING WOOD R. Bruce Hoadley
2. PETRIFIED FORESTS Many authors
3. PETRIFIED WOOD Frank J. Daniels

PETRIFIED WOOD (some of this information came from the internet from free sites)

Literally the name means “wood turned into stone” from the Greek word *petro*. All the organic materials within the wood have been replaced by minerals (silicate or quartz) while keeping the structure of the wood intact. Other plant fossils are impression or compressions while wood is a three dimensional fossil. The petrification process occurs when the wood becomes buried under sediment and is initially deprived of oxygen which slows down aerobic decomposition. Mineral laden water flowing through the sediment deposits minerals in the wood cells, and as the lignin and cellulose decay a stone replacement forms.

Elements in the water/mud give petrified wood a variety of colors. Carbon-black; Cobalt-green/blue; Chromium-green/blue; Copper-green/blue; iron oxides-red, brown and yellow; Manganese-pink/orange; and Manganese oxides-black/yellow. Almost all of these colors are present in the Arizona wood.

Some petrified wood can preserve the original structure of the wood in every detail down to microscopic level and structures of the tree such as growth rings and the various tissues are often seen. There is another web site called www.edstrauss.com/pwoodfx/html by a self taught paleobotanist named (of course) Ed Strauss who has identified 22 species of wood found in Western Washington. Great reading. Some of us have taken classes from a paleobotanist named Walt Wright. I “googled” **Walt Wright** and came upon **Walt Wrights Petrified Wood Display**, at a big rock show in California. Look it up!! Wonderful. He is marvelous and able to impart his vast knowledge so it is comprehensible to newbies like me!

Petrified wood has a Mohs hardness of 7, the same as quartz crystal. —Just as a matter of interest—It is the provincial stone of Alberta and the state stone of Washington

BB

HINTS; To determine whether a slab is solid, heat it in hot water. The surface will dry quickly with the exception of pits and fractures which will be outlined with water.

To cut unlined obsidian, first immerse it in water. Hold it against the sunlight while turning it. You will see a point where the coloration is brightest. Cut parallel to that point.

SPOKANE ROCK ROLLERS 52ND ANNUAL SHOW ON APRIL 8-9-10. TRY TO GO TO THE EVENT TO SHOW OUR SUPPORT!! OPEN EVERY DAY AT 10 A.M. A GREAT SHOW IS PLANNED.

2011 ELECTED OFFICERS OF THE NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB, INC.

PRESIDENT WARREN PRICE 457-8226

VICE-PRESIDENT BILL JOHNSON (771-2687 C)—765-3099

SECRETARY YOLANDA ROSALES 667 70973

TREASURER MIKE BURTON (818-6317 C)

FEDERATION DIRECTOR EVERETT HEADRICK 772-7643

FEDERATION DELEGATE BEVERLY BOCKMAN 773-5384

WSMC DELEGATE **OPEN**

REFRESHMENT CHAIRMAN **OPEN**

HOSPITALITY BOB BOCKMAN 773 5384

MEMBERSHIP BOB BOCKMAN "

NEWSLETTER EDITOR—BEV BOCKMAN "

WEBMASTER—MIKE BURTON 818-6317

FIELD TRIP **OPEN**

SHOW 2011—WARREN PRICE

PROGRAMS—BEV BOCKMAN AND Club Members

Removing a Stuck Cabochon

via Quarry Quips, May 2005

Here's a quick, safe way to remove a cabochon that gets stuck in the bezel of a finding when grinding for a perfect fit. Don't start picking and prying. Take it to the kitchen and have a towel or washcloth handy.

Put a cup or two of water into a small pan and bring to a boil. Take a pair of needle nose pliers or tweezers and dip the offender in hot water (one or two minutes is usually enough.) Remove and tap it gently with a pencil over the towel. **It** should drop out free and unharmed. The trick is very simple. The metal of the finding will expand more quickly than the stone, so the stone drops out.

Trumming: An ancient method for sanding &/or polishing areas too small for machine or hand working. A small nylon cord is held in as vise, the other end in the hand—pulled tight and rubbed with abrasive or polishing compound. The cord is then pulled through the opening in the design, pulled tight. Polishing 7/or sanding is done by moving the work back and forth with pressure. Using Tripoli on the cord does a fine job on sawed designs in silver or gold. Hells Canyon club May 2007

Eliminating Flats

by Ted Robles from Lapidary Digest 3/98

via RockCollector, Sept.2010

A while back, someone was saying that he was having problems with getting "flats on his cabs; that there was insufficient "give" in his wheels and it didn't seem to make any difference no matter how much pressure he applied. That was his first mistake.

Diamond and Carborundum are two different animals. Relatively speaking, about the same difference as between quartz and chalk. If you "Lean Into" a diamond wheel, you will get lousy results (flats, etc.) on your stone, and your wheels will wear out long before their time (I just replaced the first two wheels on my wife's Pixie and she's been using it for seven years). On diamond, you try to do your cutting (and everything else) by almost not touching the wheel. You use essentially no force. Don't "grind" the stone, let the diamond wear it away, but keep spinning it. The technique is simply to use the whole face of the wheel, and keep your cab moving.

Any time you stop, you just bought a "flat!" Cant help it! Its the same principle as sharpening a knife on an emery wheel. If you don't want notches in your blade, you keep it moving. You do almost ALL of your cutting on the coarsest wheel you have. If you leave ANY flats on the preform, you're going to have them on the final piece - can't help it. And, finally, practice - practice-practice. *Gem Cutters News - December, 2010*

Lake City Rockhound News

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CLUB WEB SITE

www.northidahomineralclub.com

Save ALL your cancelled stamps for cancer re-search-bring to meeting, and give to Everett H.

Affiliated with:

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

THE NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL

S.C.R.I.B.E.



2011 ROCK AND GEM SHOWS IN WA., OR., ID., AND MT.

SUPPORT YOUR FELLOW ROCKHOUNDS AND CLUBS

MARCH 26-27 SWEET HOME ROCK & MIN.-SWEET HOME, OR

APRIL 1&2 PANORAMA GEM AND MIN CLUB—COLVILLE, WA

APRIL 8-10 ROCK ROLLERS OF SPOKANE—SPOKANE, WA

APRIL 8-10 GOLDEN SPIKE GEM AND MIN. OGDEN, UTAH

APRIL 2-3 S.E.IDAHO GEM AND MIN - POCA TELLO, ID.

APRIL 2-3 MT. HOOD ROCK CLUB GRESHAM, OR.

APRIL 9-10 MT. BAKER ROCK & GEM BELLINGHAM, WA

APRIL 16-17 YAKIMA ROCK AND MIN CLUB-Yakima, WA

APRIL 16-17 LAKESIDE GEM & MIN. KENNEWICK, WA

CONSULT www.amfed.org/nfms for show details.