



# W.A.M.S.

## Rockhound Rumblings

### President's Report

February 2022

#### President's Ramble

Greetings to all club members. It is hard to believe that a month has already passed since I last sat down and wrote this Ramble.

Biggest news for this month is that we decided to move the meeting to a Saturday during the day to allow more members to attend. This was brought to my attention by a club member through another club member's suggestion. After talking it over we realized this might be a better time to hold our monthly meetings. Hopefully this allows more members to attend who did not want to drive at night the extra ten miles out to the Polk County Fairgrounds.

I am hoping that everyone is thinking about our upcoming River of Gem Show in April. We are going to need a lot of volunteers to make our show a success.

We are still looking for someone who is willing to take over the Treasure's position. Dave Maxwell will not be able to fill the post after March. If you are at all interested, please let me know. You can contact me at (971) 216-1863 or email at [richardilg12@gmail.com](mailto:richardilg12@gmail.com)

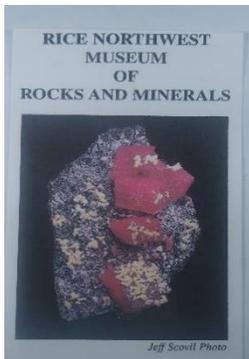
See you at the meeting, -Richard Ilg

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| 1-President's Report                                   | 6-Winter Beach Agate Collecting by Dan Groah                           |
| 2-River of Gems Show Update/Museums                    | 7- Winter Beach Agate Collecting continued                             |
| 3-Rock and Mineral Museums by Dan Groah                | 8- Winter Beach Agate Collecting continued/<br>Ray Haslebacher passing |
| 4-Rice Museum/Officers and Chair Positions             | 9-Membership Application   |
| 5-Field Trip Fogarty Creek North State Recreation area |  |

## RIVER OF GEMS SHOW UPDATE

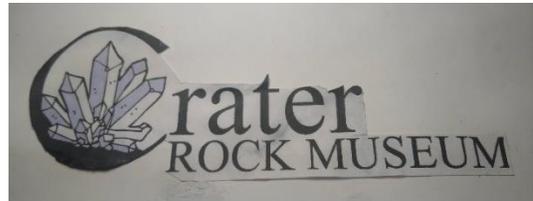
The 2022 River of Gems Rock show is only months away. I am still waiting to hear from some vendors. I will be sending them emails to hopefully get the rest of the contracts. I will have post cards ready for distribution by the 3rd or 4th of February. I have sent the information to Aaron for the flyers to be printed. I have not heard a print date yet, so I will call him. I will have more information at the February 12th meeting. I will also have the very important sign-up sheets for volunteers. The permit for hanging the banner is secure, and the banner is ready for Salem sign to hang. With the help we will get from our volunteers, we can make this a very successful show.

Thank you,  
your show chair, Ken Stubenrauch



### Rock and Mineral Museums

By Dan Groah



Would you like to “Ooooh” and “Ahhhh” someone else’s collection of rocks and minerals in a professional or semi-professional setting? Oregon is abundant with these places if you know about them and where to look. Often, we think of going to a museum as a winter activity but if you are on a summer trip and happen to pass a good rock and mineral viewing venue, you should consider stopping.

There are two premier museums in western Oregon. The Rice Rock and Mineral Museum in Hillsboro, near highway 26 is nearly mandatory. Let’s just say that after you see what is presented, you’ll wonder why you hadn’t gone before. This museum has a world class mineral section, a petrified wood room and a Pacific Northwest building that has many, many thundereggs and other treasures. Also found in the museum are fossils, meteorites gold and of course a gift shop. **Admission to the Rice Museum is free to WAMS members for 2022 due to an endowment. Wear your WAMS nametags to gain entry.**

Also in Portland, OMSI has a display of Oregon gemstones and Clarno fossils. The Forestry Museum, up by the Portland Zoo has petrified wood on display. The other great western

Oregon rock and mineral museum is just off I-5 near Central Point in southern Oregon. This is the Crater Rock Museum. While here you will find rocks and minerals similar to the Rice Museum, but there are differences. To me, one appealing feature is Oregon rocks from old collections. For instance, here can be found some of the Dwight McCorkle's thunderegg collection.

County museums can have rock and mineral displays. The Grant County Museum at Canyon City has a collection of rocks and minerals from the John Day River area. The Baker County Heritage Museum has the Warfel Rock and Mineral collection plus another room the Billy Wyatt cabochon collection that has 110 frames of Oregon cabochons (I counted them). Many of these cabs were created from old Oregon rough no longer readily available, like blood red carnelian from White Rock Springs thunderegg cores.

Some BLM and USFS offices have modest displays of gems of their area as you enter the buildings. Small private displays are around. Cindy Kopcinsky maintains a small museum in Mitchell of gems from the Kopcinsky mines. Our own WAMS member, Aaron Currier has created a collection where he teaches in the Central School District. WAMS helped Aaron build cases and he filled them with quality specimens.

Not all rocks have to be gemstones. The Peterson Rock Garden between Redmond and Bend is interesting if you haven't been there before. I believe there has been some restorations. South of Bend is the High Desert Museum which shows various lava structures. The Thomas Condon Paleontology Center on state highway 19 in the John Day Fossil Beds has post-dinosaur fossils. Klamath Falls has the Favell Museum which is dedicated to Native American artifacts. Many of these are fashioned from rocks. One single piece in here can be worth the price of admission. On the second floor of Favell's is a vault. In the exact center of this large safe is a pedestal that displays an arrowpoint made of Virgin Valley Fire Opal. This is not a modern creation but an original indigenous artifact that Gene Favell dickered for years to get before he finally made it the center of his museum.

Lastly, one can see rocks and mineral specimens at rock shops. Unlike a museum, if something appeals to you, buy it. Of course, you don't have to purchase anything, but I try to politely buy something. Some rock shops, like Richardson's near Madras have an onsite rock and mineral museum to complement their commercial inventory



**The Rice NW Museum**

A great winter getaway  
Free with your membership name tag.

Rice NW Museum  
26385 NW Groveland Drive  
HILLSBORO, Oregon 97124  
[+1 503-647-2418](tel:+15036472418)  
[info@ricenorthwestmuseum.org](mailto:info@ricenorthwestmuseum.org)

Thursday 10:00AM-4:00PM  
Friday-Sunday 10:00AM-5:00PM

Masks and face coverings are required indoors for ages 5 and above, in accordance with the Oregon Health Authority, CDC, and county recommendations.

**Reservations are suggested due to limited space.**

Reservations are for small groups of 5 attendees or less. If you have a larger group, please schedule multiple appointments or explore options for larger groups

**Members are FREE with your membership name tag**

Adults: \$12.00  
Seniors (60+)/Veterans: \$10.00  
Students: \$8.00  
Children (up to 5 years): FREE

**WAMS Officers and Chair Positions**

**Officers:**

**President:** Richard Ilg

**Vice President:** Mimi Surgeon

**Treasurer:** Dave Maxwell

**Secretary:** Suzette Mykyles

**Members At Large:** Tom Beaty, Ken Seward, Woody White

**Federation Director:** Larry Ferguson

**Board Chairman:** Larry Ferguson

**Chair Positions:**

**Advertising:** VACANT, Could be You!

**Education:** VACANT, Could be You!

**Field Trip Coordinator:** Barbara Hopkins

**Historian:** Barbara Hopkins

**Hostess:** Bonnie Stubenrauch

**Juniors:** Leslie Morgenstern

**Librarian:** Eddie Hopper

**Nametags:** Woody White

**Newsletter Editor:** Djaylan Adams

**Oregon Council:** Ted and Vickie Johnson

**Programs:** Eddie Hopper

**Property Control:** Woody White

**Public Relations:** VACANT, Could be You!

**Publications:** Djaylan Adams

**Show Chair:** Ken Stubenrauch

**Stamps:** Aaron Curier

**Sunshine:** Bonnie Stubenrauch

# Field Trip Information

Fogarty Creek North State Recreation area (South Fogarty Creek is connected)  
44°50'29.0"N 124°02'57.8"W

Fogarty Beach is a good place to search for agates, jasper, petrified wood and invertebrate fossils.

**44.841388, -124.049378 South of Lincoln City, at the end of Lincoln left turn lane East side of 101. North of Depot Bay Turn Right just Past Surfrider Resort (Beluga beads) on west side of 101 Hwy**

February 26th noon at North Parking lot, plenty of parking Restrooms available.  
Low minus Tide is at 3:10. Dress for the weather- rain. bring a small bucket or Ziplock bag, Small shovel or trowel (optional) water, lunch or snack, fingerless gloves, change of clothes, shoes and socks is a good idea. If you are bringing young children- a life jacket, sand toys.

Limit of one gallon per person per day of rocks, non-living shells, fossils, and stones. No more than three gallons per person per year.

**Oregon State Parks allow rockhounding of small amounts of rocks, minerals, and fossils for personal collection.** However, digging or otherwise disrupting park property is strictly prohibited. Larger collecting might be allowed upon approval of the park manager at some State Park locations.

**It is legal to take sand from the beach in Oregon,** if you follow the rules. As noted in the above quoted OAR, individuals can take home up to 5 gallons of sand a day if the use is intended to be personal and not commercial, up to 20 gallons a year.

### **Watch out for sneaker waves**

Always keep one eye on the ocean so you won't be caught off guard if a bigger wave surges up the beach. These "sneaker waves" are unpredictable, powerful and can easily knock adults off their feet.

### **Watch for falling rocks**

Avoid walking along the base of cliffs or eroding bluffs. Chunks of cliff or rocks can fall at any time; areas with overhangs and caves are especially dangerous. Do not dig in cliffs or bluffs.

### **Avoid logs on the beach**

Stay away from logs on the beach or in the surf. The logs absorb water like sponges, increasing their weight by up to several tons. The ocean is strong enough to pick up even the heaviest log and roll it over you.

### **Know the tides**

Know when the tide is coming in, especially when exploring tidepools or secluded beaches. Incoming tides can quickly leave you stranded away from shore. Be extra careful during extreme high or low tides and storms. Oregon tide times are posted at [tide-forecast.com](http://tide-forecast.com).

Questions? Please contact:

Barbara Hopkins 971-218-6405 - cell# leave a message or text me.

[hopkinsbe29@gmail.com](mailto:hopkinsbe29@gmail.com) -- please put "WAMS Field Trip" in the header.



# Willamette Agate and Mineral Society, Inc.

PO Box 13041  
Salem Oregon 97309-1041

## Membership Application

New  Renewal

Individual Membership Name \_\_\_\_\_

Couple Membership Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Member(s) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cellular) \_\_\_\_\_

Email 1\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*If you have more than one email for your membership/family, please indicate which one to mail the newsletter too.

Email 2 \_\_\_\_\_

- I (we) would like to receive the WAMS monthly newsletter by  email (color) or by  USPS mail.
- I (we) would like to receive the Federation newsletter by  email or by  USPS mail.
- I (we) would like to receive an email for WAMS announcements, event updates and field trip information.
- I (we) are interested in being a WAMS officer/or chairperson.
- I (we) are interesting in helping with the annual rock and gem show.
- I (we) are interested in volunteering for work parties and/or event committees.

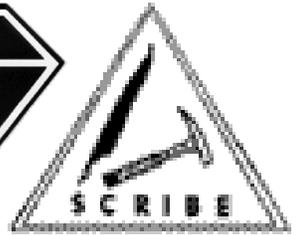
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Membership Dues:</b>	
<b>Individual</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>Couple</b>	<b>\$24.00</b>
<b>Junior(s)</b>	<b>\$2.50</b>

Please return this form by mailing it to the address above or bringing it to the monthly meeting and giving it to the treasurer with your dues. Thank you. Renewals are due by the first meeting of the current year. Members that are considered delinquent will not be able to participate in any WAMS functions or continue to receive the monthly newsletters. Members joining after July 1st will only pay half price.

<b>To be filled in by WAMS treasurer</b>	
WAMS - Received By: _____	Date _____
Payment method: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash (or) <input type="checkbox"/> Check Ck# _____	Amount: _____



**WAMS contact information:**

**Webpage:**

[www.wamsi.net](http://www.wamsi.net)

**Facebook:**

Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc.

**Instagram:**

Willamette\_agate\_and\_mineral

**Twitter:**

<https://twitter.com/RiverofGems>

**Newsletter email:**

[rockclubnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rockclubnewsletter@gmail.com)

**River of Gems email:**

[Wams.riverofgems@gmail.com](mailto:Wams.riverofgems@gmail.com)

Willamette Agate and Mineral Society (**W.A.M.S.**) is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (**AFMS**), the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (**NFMS**), the Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs, the American Lands Access Association (**ALAA**), and the Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors (**S.C.R.I.B.E.**).

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Salem 50+ Senior Center, 2615 Portland Road NE, in Salem, Oregon. Executive Board meetings are held with upcoming meetings announced at the general meeting, and all members are invited to attend. **W.A.M.S.** was organized to stimulate interest in the study and collection of agates, minerals, gems, and fossils, and support lapidary work, education, scientific study of natural earth sciences, and charitable purposes within the meaning of Section #501(C)(3) IRS

**W.A.M.S.**

**P.O. Box 13041**

**Salem 97309**

**To:**