



April 2019 Newsletter

**"It's in our name . . .
It's what we do . . .
We collect rocks!!!!"**

The **CENTRAL OREGON ROCK COLLECTORS** (CORC) is an informal group dedicated to sharing the rock hound hobby. We meet for field trips, collecting rocks, monthly programs, and related activities. You do not have to be a member to attend meetings. However, you **MUST** be a member to participate in field trips. Yearly memberships are \$20 for individuals, or \$25 for households. A membership form is on our website, which includes a liability release for field trips.

PRESIDENT: Elizabeth Prindle..... pointingatthemoon@bendcable.com

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Welcome: Rockhounding is best when it is shared. We welcome visitors to our meetings, anytime. If anyone has any interesting adventures or unusual materials that they would like to share, we would love to hear about them.

The Club meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month, March through October. The November meeting is a potluck holiday get-together on a Sunday. No winter meetings. Regular meetings are held at the Redmond Grange, 707 Kalama Avenue, Redmond, starting at 7:00 pm until 8:30 or 9:00.

A Message from Your President

Welcome back! from our winter break and the beginning of the 2019 season. At our last meeting in November, the club held elections for officers. Elizabeth Prindle was re-elected as President, and Debbie Simon was elected as Vice-President. Marty Betsch would like to retire as Treasurer mid-term and no candidate was nominated. Marty has agreed to continue until a candidate can be found.

Your Board has been busy over the winter months. With an expanding membership comes many growing pains. We have written our By-Laws, our Articles of Incorporation, and filed for non-profit status..

Minutes from March 20th Meeting

Welcome and Introductions – At 7:07 p.m. Elizabeth Prindle, President, welcomed all members and guests to the first regular meeting of 2019 at the new location at the Grange Hall in Redmond. New members were acknowledged and welcomed warmly. Elizabeth introduced Deb Simon, Vice President, Marty Betsch, Treasurer, and Suzie Meeker, Secretary. Marty announced that 2019 dues are now due and she would collect them at the break.

Nonprofit Status – Our club is growing, and we are applying to become a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. Draft copies of the club By-Laws were available to interested members. If you have suggestions, please email Elizabeth or Suzie.

Field Trips – John Moreau and Ken Lawson are the Field Trip Committee Chairs. John announced the year's field trips as follows:

Sunday, April 14 – Hampton Butte for petrified wood in a variety of colors (green being highly sought after). Please meet at 9 a.m. at the Brothers rest stop, just east of the tiny town of Brothers, which is about one hour east of Bend on Highway 20. There will be a short safety meeting and samples of what to look for will be available. The road to Hampton is graveled and suitable for any type of vehicle. The terrain is mostly level. The digging site is about 30 minutes from the Brothers rest stop. It will most likely be very muddy so be prepared with proper boots. Bring buckets, shovels and other digging tools as well as a spray bottle to see what you find through the mud!

Saturday, May 11 – North Ochoco Reservoir outside of Prineville for jasper. The terrain involves a strenuous climb through scree. It is about a 750 foot elevation change.

Sunday, June 9 – Coyle Butte area in the Ochocos outside of Prineville for agates and crystals.

Sunday, September 8 – Whistler Springs in the Ochocos for thundereggs.

Saturday, October 12 – Mile Post 32 near Post for petrified wood, crystals and leaf fossils.

Additional multiday trips:

April 28-May 4 – Succor Creek near the Oregon/Idaho border, about 15 miles south of Ontario for picture jasper, thundereggs and leaf fossils. Dry camping is available in the state park.

May 20-May 24 – Fallon, Nevada area for wonderstone and other minerals. Private campgrounds as well as motels are available in the area.

June 22-23 – Sunstones with the Klamath Falls Rock and Arrowhead Club at their claim. More details to follow.

Fall and Spring trips to McDermitt – Dates to be determined. McDermitt has a large variety of minerals and is on the Oregon/Nevada border. There is a private campground in the small town.

Upcoming Pow Wows with their day field trips:

June 13-16 – Prineville Pow Wow with field trips planned Fri-Sunday. Admission is free for the Pow Wow with vendors from several states. Field trips are available by sign up and payment of a small fee.

June 20-23 – Madras Pow Wow with field trips. Its rock show is similar to Prineville but has some different vendors. Admission is free.

Programs – Don Ross was introduced as the Program Committee Chair. Next month's program will be on finding opals in Oregon by club member Jules Wetzel. Our club needs ideas on programs, so please contact Don Ross if you are interested.

Recommended Books – Elizabeth recommended several books for information on rockhounding and geology:

Gem Trails of Oregon by Garret Romaine

Rockhounding Oregon, a Falcon Guide, by Lars Johnson

Roadside Geology of Oregon by Marli Miller

She also mentioned the relatively new Central Oregon Geoscience Society (COGS). They have monthly meetings with guest speakers. Their website is www.cogeosoc.org for schedule and more information.

Sharing – Different members of the club shared some of the rocks they found, worked with or bought in the last year:

Ken Lawson showed a large heart of rose amethyst purchased at one of the Tucson gem shows as well as a Moroccan white crystal geode, carved rainbow obsidian from Mexico and polychrome jasper. John Moreau showed polished wonderstone from Fallon and Friend's Ranch thundereggs,

and Suzie Meeker passed around blue kyanite from Brazil which is rumored to have mystical properties.

Don Ross offered to share his extensive knowledge of rocks with new members, and Paul Asman offered to teach wirewrapping at his costs. Paul showed beautiful wirewrapped cabochons.

Al Liebetrau brought a black light to show fluorescent minerals, and his wife Sue shared iron pyrite crystal replaced by limonite. Erik Badzinski passed around highly polished obsidian, and Steve Attelsperger shared a large example of native copper from Pennsylvania.

Jim Jeffery shared some of his experiences at Desert Gardens in Quartzsite, AZ, from this January and February. Gayle Butler shared a slice of palm root from California, and Dave Morris showed a cube cut of a thunderegg. Cindy Kee had blackskin agate from India as well as hearts cut from Brazilian agate.

The meeting concluded at 8:45 p.m. after the door prize drawing. If you won a prize, please bring a prize to the next meeting.

Submitted by Suzie Meeker, Secretary

Do you know....

Do you know the meanings of these words when applied to mineralogy? You can search for the terms on the Internet to see pictures (always worth a 1000 words!).

Banding – the occurrence of concentric layers or bands of different colors found in some minerals, like agate. They look like colored zoning lines. Search for “banding agates”.

Botryoidal – comes from the Greek word meaning bunch of grapes. Under the right conditions, some minerals form clusters of round balls that look like bunches of grapes. The formation often looks like bubbles. Search for “botryoidal rocks”.

Cathedral – an extremely large, typically very tall amethyst geode. They are often found in Brazil. Search for “cathedral amethyst”.

Chalcedony – (pronounced Kal-SID-nee) is a generic term for materials composed of microcrystalline quartz. Agate, Jasper, carnelian, chrysoprase and onyx are all chalcedony minerals, and many types are found in Oregon. An interesting article on the difference between agate and jasper can be found at <https://rocktumbler.com/blog/what-is-agate-jasper-chalcedony/>

Cleavage – a description of the way some minerals break into flat surfaces. How it breaks is determined by the crystal structure of the rock. Search for “rock cleavage”.

Ding – a chip or blemish on a mineral specimen. Dings interfere with the look of a specimen, and usually reduce the value of it.

Druse – a mass of very small, intergrown crystals. Though they are small, they are still visible to the human eye. Search for “druse geology”.

Enhydro – means containing water. Water can play a part in the formation of a number of minerals. Sometimes water is trapped inside a crystal as it forms, and it is preserved as a visible bubble. Search for “enhydro quartz”.

Evaporite – a mineral that forms by the evaporation of water. Gypsum and halite are two common evaporite minerals.

Fluorescence – is a special color property of some minerals. It is activated by short-wave and/or long-wave ultraviolet light. Just ask Al Liebetrau! You can also search for “Fluorescent rocks” and watch that spelling.

- by Susie Meeker

GET READY! BE PREPARED! ROCK-HOUNDING CHECK LIST

By Ken Larson

PERSONAL:

Drinking water---**lots and lots and lots of drinking water**
Food---extra just in case; it is always good to be prepared
Cash
Basic First Aid Kit: including Advil & Tylenol & Aspirin
Personal Medications
Toilet paper
Charged up cell phone
Sun Screen
Wide Brim Hat
Extra Clothing including dry socks
Proper foot wear: **boots are best**
Long pants---keep your legs protected
Gloves
Rain Gear

TOOLS:

Small Pick
Medium Sized Pick
Small Shovel
Long Shovel
Rock Hammer
Golf Club; preferably a sand wedge
-As recommended by Jules Wetzel
Backpack
Squirt bottle: these work best when full of water
Buckets
Heavy duty rip saw/hand saw: great for cutting
branches and roots
Hatchet

VEHICLE:

Full Tank of Gas!!!

Check Oil Level
Check Radiator Level
Check Tire Pressure **including the spare tire**
Have a can of "Fix-a-Flat"

Duct Tape
Extra Oil & Coolant
Basic Mechanics tools
Maps—Guide Books—Rock ID Books

Business Cards:

We are more than happy to include members' rock-related business cards in this section.



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*Canutts Gems is offering a 5% discount to members showing a CORC membership card.

Classified Ads: If you have a rockhound-related item you wish to advertise, send the announcement to Don Ross at donross1949@gmail.com



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