



November 2020

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: Patricia Moreland..... oregonpat@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT: **Vacant**

TREASURER: Janet Murphyjanetmurphy414@gmail.com

ACTING SECRETARY: Suzie Meeker.....suziej49@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Suzie Meeker..... suziej49@gmail.com

FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE CHAIR: Ken Lawsonkrlawson@bendcable.com

PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR: Lori Sensibaugh..lsensibaugh@crestviewcable.com

NW FEDERATION REPRESENTATIVES: Clara & Del Walker.....cdwalker@q.com

SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBMASTER: Karen Cameronkarecame@gmail.com

Club Website – <http://corockcollectors.com>

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 normally meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month, March through October, except for the month of the summer picnic. The November meeting is a potluck holiday get-together on a Sunday. (Cancelled in 2020) There are

no winter meetings (Dec-Feb). The Club address is CORC, PO Box 6265, Bend, OR 97708.

Regular meetings are held at the Redmond Grange, 707 Kalama Avenue, Redmond, starting normally at 7:00 pm until 8:30 or 9:00 p.m.

Northwest Federation Newsletter

Our club is a member of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Please check back monthly at their website for the Federation newsletter, which normally lists many of the rock shows taking place in the Northwest. The link is <http://northwestfederation.org/newsletters.asp>

If you are interested in attending regional events, check out the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, which is the parent group of the Northwest Federation. Look for the annual event that hosts the American Federation Show as well as regional federation shows which usually include field trips. See <http://www.amfed.org/> The American Federation site also includes current articles of interest to geologists and rockhounds alike.

Field Trip Reports: White Fir and TNT Bed Thundereggs

The Club's final field trip of the year was to the Ochoco Mountains, well-known for thundereggs. Paul Asman was a great help to the over 20 Club members who participated. Many of us dug for eggs at both sites. The TNT bed is claimed by the Mt. Hood Club, and our Club had received permission to visit the site. The eggs there were relatively easy to find; the road to get there was NOT as easy!



NOTE: The tools at the right were found at the White Fir site. Please contact Suzie or Patricia Moreland if these belong to you.

Humble Beginnings – Early History of CORC

By Al & Sue Liebetrau

What? No rock club? Right here in Central Oregon, the Mecca of the rockhounding world. People come here from around the world, and we didn't have a rock club. We moved to Central Oregon in 2002, and there was no active rock and gem club, although there were rock shows in Prineville, Madras, and Sisters.

There were others who thought the area should have a club. Gary and Beckie Buss eventually made the first attempts to form a club. The first meeting was on July 17, 2005, in Pioneer Park in Prineville. We attended that meeting and made plans to meet again in September at our house. The organization was very informal. Meetings were pot-luck affairs held at lunchtime, followed by show-and-tell and rock talk. Paul Asman handled whatever administrative affairs needed attention. We handled Membership, meeting notices and Treasurer's duties. Dues were \$3 per year to cover the cost of mailing meeting notices. We placed great emphasis on maintaining a full schedule of field trips. So you can see that field trips are in our DNA; they are what we do.

We soon began to meet in the clubhouse at Queen's Court Trailer Park in Prineville. Since we struggled with low membership, we put a meeting notice in the RoundUp newsletter. Unfortunately, the trailer park owner saw the notice, and he had visions of "outsiders" taking over the clubhouse each month. Our April, 2007, meeting proved to be a turning point as it was the last at the clubhouse. Eight people attended the meeting and decided to suspend meetings and just focus on field trips. As a field trip only club, there wasn't much glue to hold the remnants of CORC together with no fellowship, no show and tell, and no opportunities to plan. And so we floundered.

Finally, on April 30, 2009, we visited Jerry Brown and Stephanie Hartzell to discuss the future of the rock club. Jerry, in particular, wanted to hold another meeting where we would propose reorganizing the group into a regular club. Two things would be different about this attempt. First, we would find a centrally located meeting room that was within our budget and could accommodate a growing club. Ray's Food Place in Redmond turned out to be ideal. Second, by holding meetings in the evening, we effectively opened membership to all the families that not could not attend a midday meeting.

The kickoff meeting took place on May 27, 2009. About 23 people attend. Jerry ran the meeting and things went quite well. Al agreed to be Treasurer/Membership Chair and Sue/Stephanie Hartzell agreed to edit the newsletter, CORC Connections. What had once been just a meeting notice was about to become a newsletter.

Part Two of the early beginnings of Central Oregon Rock Collectors will be in the March, 2021 newsletter.

October Meeting last meeting of 2020

Ken and Roxanne Lawson did a wonderful job presenting how to make stepping stones. Despite the chilly temperatures meeting outdoors at night in October, over 25 members attended. **NOTE:** If you were unable to attend the October meeting and would like a copy of the stepping stone instructions, please contact Suzie Meeker. The CORC Board approved three honorary memberships to the CORC founding members Al and Sue

Liebetrau and Paul Asman. Due to COVID, the November holiday party has been cancelled. Our next meeting will be in 2021. Please watch for the March, 2021, newsletter for more information.

Ideas for Winter Rockhounding Blues

Below are some ideas on how to cheer yourself up until you can go out and dig again! The list is my compilation, and it's likely I have overlooked some of your favorites. So please consider sharing your ideas so the next edition of the newsletter can include some of YOUR thoughts –Suzie, Newsletter Editor

1. Make your own stepping stone!

2. Learn about Oregon Geology:

- a. **Take a class at COCC** (if you are a senior, it's FREE).
- b. **Geology.com** - covers many different topics. The link below takes you to the page on Oregon Gemstones, but other topics are on the left hand side of the page. <https://geology.com/gemstones/states/oregon.shtml>
- c. **Watch videos** - <https://iafi.org/pacnw-geology-videos-nick-zentner/> PacNW Geology Lectures by Central Washington University professor Nick Zentner. Some of the videos are only 2 minutes in length, and some are up to an hour, and all are free to watch. This page provides links to many of his lectures. Another link for Prof. Nick Zentner/Nick Foster videos is <http://hugefloods.com/> but this site also includes some explanations as well as excellent photos and graphics.
- d. **Explore Mindat.org** – Very scientific site with an extensive glossary. The link is <http://Mindat.org>

3. Visit a museum:

- a. **The Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals** is located in Hillsboro near Portland. They remain open with limited days of the week, and you need to reserve a time/date in advance. You will get a time to check in at the gift shop, but you may stay at the museum as long as you wish. There is an admission fee with reduced rates for seniors. This is an exceptional museum and is not to be missed. The garage sale (for rocks, of course), held several times a year, is worth attending, according to those who have scored there. For more info go to <https://ricenorthwestmuseum.org/>
- b. **The Crater Rock Museum** is located in Central Point near Medford. The Roxy Ann Gem and Mineral Society hosts this museum which has many

more displays and specimens than you would expect. Please go to <https://craterrock.com/> for more info and admission fee schedule.

- c. **Lucky Strike Mine Gift Shop and Museum in Mitchell, OR.** The Lucky Strike Mine has closed, but you may buy their thundereggs at the museum/gift shop. It is best to call ahead to be sure of winter hours. The phone number is 541-362-1915. You may want to plan a day trip to the Painted Hills and stop off at the gift shop/museum.

4. Go Christmas Shopping:

- a. **Cigar Box Lapidary** located in Instant Landscaping Company at 63160 Nels Anderson Rd (north side of Hwy 97) – sells lapidary equipment and does repair; some rocks also for sale
- b. **Nature's Bling - Bend Store** at 133 SW Century Drive, Bend (check on hours and days open); phone 541-640-0888; **Sisters Store** at 183 E Hood Ave, Sisters.
- c. **Richardson's Rock Ranch** – store only is open (no more digging). <https://richardsonrockranch.com/>
- d. **Sunriver Rock & Gem** – See their website at <https://www.villageatsunriver.com/directory-of-businesses/name/sunriver-rock-and-gem/> (check on hours and days open)

5. Ask Santa for a GPS and learn to use it!

6. Plan your first 2021 adventure:

- a. **Order Tim Fischer's DVD/thumb drive** which lists many Pacific Northwest rockhounding sites with pictures and detailed topo maps. Go to <http://orerockon.com>
- b. **Explore websites such as Gator Girl Rocks** – Many links provided of interest to rockhounds. There are also links to rockhounding sites and info in all of the US states. Go to <http://www.gatorgirlrocks.com/state-by-state/oregon.html>

7. Join a Facebook group:

- a. **Join our Club group** which is Central Oregon Rock Collectors
- b. **Find other groups** that interest you

8. Go to the 2021 Tucson Gem Show in February:

<https://jogsshow.com/tucson-gem-show-schedule/>

Business Cards:

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



*Canutts Gems is offering a 5% discount to members showing a CORC membership card.
Currently this shop is closed due to COVID.

Classified Ads: If you have a rockhound-related item you wish to advertise, send the announcement to Suzie Meeker at suziej49@gmail.com



Jim also cuts slabs.

