

March 2021

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

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FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE CHAIR: Ken Lawsonkrlawson@bendcable.com

PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR: Lori Sensibaugh..... .lauriesensibaugh@gmail.com

NW FEDERATION REPRESENTATIVES:Gayle & Walt Butler.gaylesmail@comcast.net

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. 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. Please note: Regular meetings have been rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Message from Patricia Moreland, Club President

Hello Everyone,

March: the signs of Spring are everywhere, flower bulbs are starting to bloom and the days are longer, that is until the next snow storm comes through town to remind us Winter isn't over yet. We will be meeting this year at the **American Legion Community Park** in Redmond until it's safe to meet inside. The weather will determine when our first meeting is, so now is a good time to start looking through your rocks for our first meeting's "show and tell". If you are interested in sharing your rock knowledge, our program committee is always looking for ideas and presentations. The field trip committee has planned some great trips for 2021, which gives me something to look forward to and a chance to get some dirt under my fingernails. The field trips committee welcomes your input on places to go and the type rocks you are interested in finding. For now, I'm starting to plan for my first trip of the year, studying maps, making sure my backpack has the tools I need and a pair of gloves which I will never wear.

Until we meet, happy rockhounding,

Patricia

CORC 2021 Dues are now Due

If you have not yet done so, please mail your 2021 dues to our club mailbox at

CORC
PO Box 6265
Bend, OR 97708

We are trying to update our records. Please mail in a NEW membership form, which can be found as a separate attachment. Please be sure to indicate whether you would prefer the Northwest Federation Newsletter in email or print version.

Your dues help pay for our club's liability insurance, as well as fees for meeting sites and part of the cost of our social events.

Field Trips Planned for 2021

We have some exciting field trips planned for 2021. Below are the tentative trips planned, weather permitting. Please remember that you must be a current member of CORC in order to go on the field trips. You may pay your dues at the safety meeting before the trip.

April – Ochoco blue agate and crystals. Please be aware the terrain is quite steep.

May – Biggs jasper and China Hollow jasper/agate – fee dig. Due to a 24-person maximum, we have scheduled two separate dates, **Saturday, May 8** and **Sunday, May 23**. Each trip will visit the same sites. We will have sign ups for these trips with first come, first served. However, please wait until the April newsletter to sign up when more details will be provided. This trip is for those 18 and older due to the limited number of participants. For our new members, you can find more information about this site at <https://www.rockngem.com/something-new-at-biggs-junction/>



June – Glass Buttes obsidian. One of our club members has kindly offered to show us around the area including silver sheen, mahogany and rainbow obsidian. This is a trip for all types of vehicles and is a good site for families.



September – Maury Mountains for jasper

October – Bear Creek for petrified wood (The picture to the left is petrified wood with crystals that I dug on the last club field trip to Bear Creek in 2019.)

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> The link to the current newsletter from December, 2020, is found at <http://northwestfederation.org/documents/NorthwestNewsletter/NW1220.pdf>

Check out the back page of the newsletter for info on upcoming rock shows in the Northwest, including March 27 & 28, 2021 at Sweet Home, OR, and Yakima Rock and Mineral Show on April 23, 24 & 25, 2021.

The December 2020 Northwest Federation newsletter also an article about the origin of the thunderegg.

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.

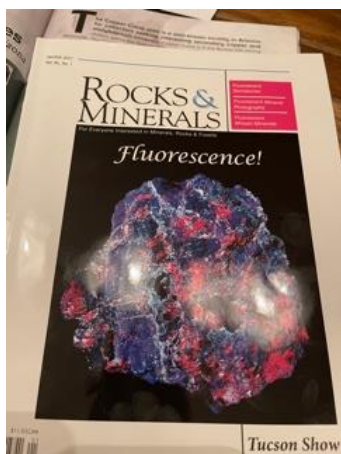
No March or April Meetings are Planned at this Time

Slowly we are coming out on the other side of this terrible pandemic. We are still planning to meet outdoors at the present time. No regular club meetings are planned for March or April due to the weather. However, we hope to have our May meeting outdoors at the American Legion Park at 850 SW Rimrock Way in Redmond. More information will be in the April newsletter.

Tucson Gem and Mineral Shows in April, 2021

Many of the Tucson gem and mineral shows were moved from February to April, 2021. Please go to <http://tucsongemshowapp.com/> for a current list of shows. The "main event", held by the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, was rescheduled for February, 2022, but there are still many shows to choose from.

Al Liebetrau's Article in Rocks & Minerals Magazine



The January/February 2021 issue of Rocks & Minerals Magazine is all about Fluorescence. Al is a longtime member of CORC and is an excellent resource for anyone interested in this topic. His article "Who's Who in Mineral Names: Richard "Dick" Bostwick" is in this issue.

Ideas for Winter Rockhounding Blues Part II

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

If you are interested in looking at the first part of this article, which appeared in the November, 2020, CORC Newsletter, please go to

<https://corockcollectors.files.wordpress.com/2020/12/corc-november-2020-nl.pdf>

1. Explore new websites

- a. **Deschutes National Forest** – Rockhounding map - This site previews the actual map that is available for purchase. Please see separate entry under Books and other Resources on where to find places to purchase the map. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/deschutes/recreation/rocks-minerals/?cid=stelprdb5381929>
- b. **Deschutes National Forest** – List of Central Oregon Public Rockhounding sites with pictures. https://www.fs.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsinternet/cs/detail!/ut/p/z0/04_Sj9CPykssy0xPLMnMz0vMAfIjo8zijQwgwNHCwN_DI8zPyBcqYKBfkO2oCABZcx5g/?position=Not&ss=110601&navtype=&pnavid=110000000000000&navid=110370000000000&cid=stelprdb5247398
- c. **Facebook** – in addition to the CORC Facebook Site (search for Central Oregon Rock Collectors), Ken Lawson recommends searching for Ayhan Coban for Turkish agate, Eastern Oregon Rockhounds, and Thunderegg Enthusiasts. I know you will recommend other Facebook groups, so please share!
- d. **Google** your favorite rock to see more info and many pictures, sometimes of rocks for sale. **Google Earth** can provide you with an overview of the area you might be considering exploring.
- e. **Thoughtco.com** is a comprehensive website that has many thousands of articles on a wide variety of topics. To learn more about Google Earth, for example, you could go to <https://www.thoughtco.com/google-earth-geography-1434610>
- f. **Kingsley North** - sells a large variety of lapidary equipment and supplies. <https://kingsleynorth.com/>

- g. **Oregon Discovery Rock Hunting** sites – links on right. Beware: some links are sponsored and the site does have advertisements. It has its own map with Oregon rockhounding sites. <https://oregondiscovery.com/oregon-rockhounding-map>
- h. **Rocktumbler.com** – Check out this site, one of many on the topic, which provides step-by-step instructions on tumbling. Additional articles can be found by scrolling down and looking at the links on the right. <https://rocktumbler.com/tips/rock-tumbler-instructions/>
- i. **State of Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries – Fossils, Minerals and Gems**
<https://www.oregongeology.org/learnmore/fossilsmineralsgems.htm>
- j. **Visit Bend** – Rockhounding Info – This is a very brief overview of rockhounding in Central Oregon.
<https://www.visitbend.com/things-to-do/activities/rockhounding/>

2. Look forward to annual events (Hoping this year they will be held):

- a. **Prineville Pow Wow** - <http://prineville.rocks/> This event is normally held in mid-June at the Crook County Fairgrounds. Admission and parking are free. Many vendors display their wares for sale. The Prineville PowWow also hosts field trips which you can go on by paying a fee. The 2019 fee was \$10.
- b. **Madras Rockhound Pow Wow** - <http://madraspowwow.rocks/> This event is normally held on the weekend after the Prineville Show and takes place at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. Again, admission and parking are free. This show attracts a few of the same vendors as Prineville but many are different. They also offer field trips by joining their group.
- c. **Sisters Roundup of Gems** – This event takes place normally around the 4th of July at Creekside Park, 504 S Locust, in Sisters. Parking and admission are free, and many are different vendors from the first two central Oregon shows as the emphasis of this show appears to be on jewelry.
- d. **Northwest Rock Shows sponsored by Federation Clubs** – check out the current NW Federation newsletter on the back page to see dates of current shows in the Pacific Northwest. It's suggested that you contact the sponsoring club to be certain the event will be held. There are also shows in the different regions of the American Federation, and the national show is held yearly. Many of the shows include guided field trips.

3. Check out books and other resources (books are available on Amazon and at many rocks shops/bookstores.)

- a. **Gem Trails of Oregon** by Garret Romaine, latest version is 2008
- b. **Rockhounding Oregon** by Lars W. Johnson, latest version is 2014
- c. **Roadside Geology of Oregon**, 2nd Ed, by Marli B. Miller, latest version is 2014
- d. **The Central Oregon Rockhounding Map** is available for \$4 at the Prineville – Crook County Chamber of Commerce, 185 NE 10th St, Prineville, phone 541-447-6304. This map includes pictures and descriptions of popular sites in central OR. If you order this map from Amazon, it costs \$19.95! The Cigar Box in Bend (referenced in the first article) also sells this map. Normally the BLM office in Prineville carries the map, but they are not currently open to the public.
- e. **Forest Motor Vehicle Use Maps for the Ochoco National Forest** – these are free maps that provide detailed roads in four separate areas of the forest. Maps 2 & 3 are back to back on one map, and Maps 1 & 4 are on the other map. Again, this Forest Office is currently closed. You may wish to contact them by phone about how to obtain these free maps. The phone number is 541-416-6500 to leave a message and ask about the maps. They are great for exploring the area, and the Ochocos have so much to offer.

4. Learn more about maps. Jules Wetzel offered these suggestions:

- a. Before I go out, I use the published BLM and USFS maps to look for public lands, <http://ormap.net> and the various county GIS sites to research tax lots and ownerships, and if necessary, county tax assessors for contact information. I also own **Terrain Navigator**, a computer program that provides various maps and aerial photos of the state for an annual fee. I also use Bing maps and Google earth to check out possible areas of interest because they usually have very sharp and relatively recent satellite images.
- b. You may want to look into <http://www.onxmaps.com> because it is a GPS based computer or phone app that claims to have the private/public land boundaries and contact information available online and even when cell service is not available.

Please email Suzie at suziej49@gmail.com with your ideas so they can be shared: favorite rock-related websites, apps or books you find useful on geology and rocks and minerals.

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. *

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.

