



April 2022 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.

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

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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 indoor meetings are held at the Redmond Grange, 707 Kalama Avenue, Redmond, starting normally at 6 PM until 7 or 7:30 PM.

Next CORC Meeting is on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 6 PM at the Redmond Grange Hall

We will be meeting at the Redmond Grange Hall at 707 SW Kalama, between Lowe's and Fred Meyer. The doors will be open for socializing and light refreshments at 5:30 PM, with the meeting beginning at 6 PM. The meeting is planned to last until 7 or 7:30 PM. The program for the April meeting will be presented by Eric Badzinski, and he will be discussing the process to file a mineral claim. Please feel free to wear a mask if you wish, but it is no longer required indoors as of March 12. If you received a door prize at the March meeting, please bring one to the April meeting.

April Field Trip to Hampton Butte Two Dates: Sunday April 10 and Sunday April 24



Due to high interest, a second date for the Hampton Butte field trip has been added. The first trip on April 10 is already filled. However, there is still room on the second date of Sunday, April 24. The road to the digging area is graveled and suitable for all vehicles. The terrain is rolling hills covered with juniper trees. Please dress in layers as Central Oregon weather can vary widely in a short time. Basic equipment to bring: gloves, digging tools, a bucket and a filled spray bottle. Some prefer to use a regular sized shovel, while others may prefer using a smaller digging tool. Pictured here are some of the tools that have been helpful at this site.

If you would like to sign up, please email Suzie at suziej49@gmail.com . If you need to cancel, please let us know as soon as possible. We will be meeting at the Brothers rest area on Highway 20 for a safety meeting at 8:30 AM on the day of the trip before continuing to Hampton Butte. We will be digging for jasper replaced petrified wood in yellow, red, and green colors as well as agates.

Field Trip Checklist - What to Bring By April Anable

Field trips are often considered one of the best perks of membership to CORC; who doesn't love a good treasure hunt? Our trips are a great way to catch the rockhounding bug, learn new areas, techniques, and how to identify great material. Going along as a group also has the benefit of increased safety and no worries about getting lost. Most of our trips are to remote areas, so in order to keep everyone safe and have a great time, it is important that you are properly prepared.

The Essentials - requirements for every field trip

- A bucket! Gotta have somewhere to put your treasures! A backpack may also be handy in some locations.
- Clothes appropriate for the weather and location. Sturdy boots and a hat are essential. Dress in layers.
- Water. It is important to stay hydrated, particularly in warm weather.
- Gloves. Protect your hands, not only from the rocks (especially obsidian), but from blisters if you are digging or hammering.
- Snacks and a sack lunch. Field trips start early in the morning and usually go to mid-afternoon. Make sure you have plenty of fuel.
- Sunscreen. No one wants to be a lobster!
- A vehicle capable of making it to the field trip site. Many of our trips require high-clearance vehicles. This will be detailed in the newsletter. Carpooling is always available.
- Trashbag. You never know when you might find trash left behind by others. Let's set a good example and leave the area cleaner than when we found it!

Tools - varies by location and material (will be detailed in the newsletter)

- General tools for any location: a rockpick or geology pick.
- Digging: a shovel, geology pick, or mattock.
- Hard rock mining: gads, chisels, pry bars and a sledgehammer.

Miscellaneous

- A spray bottle full of water really makes the rocks come alive and aid in identification. When digging, a stiff-bristled brush can help remove dirt from the rock.
- Safety glasses, recommended for hard rock mining and obsidian.
- A sense of adventure!

What is petrified wood?

Petrified wood is found all over the world, and it is a fossil, which is defined as the remains or traces of a plant or animal preserved in rock. Petrified means turned to stone by the gradual introduction of minerals. The petrification process takes place underground over time when the living trees are buried under sediment or volcanic ash. The lack of oxygen slows the decay of the tree and allows the cell structures to be replaced by minerals. Oregon is considered to be a source of some of the finest petrified wood which can be polished.

There are many web sites with information about petrified wood and how it is formed.

How Stuff Works

<https://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/earth/geology/petrified-wood.htm>

Geology.com -- <https://geology.com/stories/13/petrified-wood/>

Oregon Discovery -- <https://oregondiscovery.com/petrified-wood>

At Hampton Butte, the presence of iron through oxidation and reduction causes some of the petrified wood to be green in color, which is very rare. A detailed scientific article about the origin of petrified wood colors written by professors from Washington and Oregon universities is found at <https://www.mdpi.com/2076-3263/6/2/25/htm>

The petrified wood at Hampton Butte is from the Clarno formation, estimated by geologists to be formed between 54 and 39 million years ago in the Eocene era.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has limited the collection of petrified on BLM lands to 25 lbs per day with a maximum of 250 lbs/year. The wood is meant for personal use.

2022 List of Planned Field Trips

Below are the planned trips for 2022. The dates and locations may be changed due to weather, road and fire conditions.

Saturday, April 30 – SAVE THE DATE. There is a fun event planned for the morning.

Saturday, May 7 and Saturday May 21 – Ochoco Mts for tube agate

Sunday, June 12 with second date TBD – Pole Creek near Brothers (area not explored on previous club trips) for petrified wood, jasper and (rarely) stilbite crystals

Saturday, Sept 10 – Polka Dot Mine and McDonald's Ranch near Madras – fee digs meaning you pay for what you take with you -- for petrified wood, agate and thundereggs

Sunday, October 9 – Ochoco Mts. for jasper

Due to the number of club members who may want to attend the field trips, the trips will be limited to a specific number of cars that the site can accommodate. Signups in advance of the field trips is necessary. If there is sufficient demand, the same trip may be offered twice in the same month. The first time to sign up for the May trip will be at the CORC meeting on April 20. After that time, sign ups will be by email or phone call.

Miscellaneous Items of Note

CORC Interest Survey Coming Soon

In the next few weeks you will be asked to fill out a brief online survey about the club. We strive to be the best club we can be and the board wants to know where the interest of our members lie, including what we are doing well, what we can improve, what features and benefits would you like to see added in the future, etc. Be on the lookout for an email or Facebook post with a link to the survey. We will also allow non-members to respond via our Facebook group as we want to know what we can do to serve more of our community. Thank you in advance - we value your feedback!

Thanks to the club for donations

Denver and Laurie Sensibaugh would like to thank everyone that donated polished rocks and thunder eggs for the Easter weekend agate and thunder egg hunt (April 16 and 17). It will be at Madras Trails (East B Street/Ashwood Road) in Madras, Oregon. We will put rocks out on Friday night and again on Saturday night. Rocks will be on the sides of the horse trails only. The bike trails are too busy. You can participate anytime Saturday or Sunday. Guidelines will be posted at the trailhead.

Save Stamps Program

As most of you know, CORC is a member of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies. NFMS is collecting new and used stamps. The money generated from these stamps is then donated to cancer research. Please save any and all used stamps, leaving at least a 1/2" around the stamp when cutting it off the envelope. Stamps may be brought to the monthly meetings and given to our NWFS representatives, Gayle and Walt Butler, or Del and Clara Walker. Thank you!

Local Rock Shows Planned

Both the Prineville and Madras rock shows will be held this year.

June 16-19 – Prineville Rockhound PowWow, Crook County Fairgrounds, 1280 Main Street, Prineville, OR, website: <http://Prineville.rocks>

June 23-26 – Madras Rock, Gem and Mineral Show, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Madras, OR

Upcoming Area Rock Shows

April 15-17 -- Willamette Agate and Mineral Society, Polk County Fairgrounds, 520 S Pacific Hwy W, Rickreall OR, website: www.WAMSI.net

April 22-24 – Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, Central Washington State Fair Park, 1301 South Fair Ave, Yakima, WA, contact Marti Sondgeroth 509-248-6401

May 6-8 – Mt Hood Rock Club, Kliever Memorial Armory, 10000 NE 33rd Dr, Portland, OR, website: www.mthoodrockclub.com

May 7-8 – Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club, Douglas County Fairgrounds, Roseburg, OR, contact: Brooke Jakubos, 541-784-7515

May 14-15 – Hatrockhound Gem and Mineral Society, Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 East Airport Rd, Hermiston, OR, contact: Mike Filarski 541-571-2593

May 28-29 – Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club, Clackamas County Fairgrounds, 694 NE 4th Ave, Canby OR, website: www.clackamettegem.org

Minutes of CORC meeting on March 16, 2022

John Moreau conducted the meeting, which broke all records for the number of members attending. New members were welcomed. Janet Murphy, club treasurer, announced the club is doing well financially and detailed expenses as insurance, room rental, dues for the Northwest Federation, and the cost of the annual picnic in the summer.

Ken Lawson, field trip chair, and Suzie Meeker explained the sign up procedure for field trips being those who are at the monthly meetings get priority sign ups for the next month's field trip. The number of cars will be limited, and extra field trips in a month may be offered.

Programs were announced by program chair Lori Sensibaugh as follows: April will be Eric Badzinski who will go over the steps for a mineral claim, May will be Roger Severson who will discuss the geology of Glass Buttes, June will be John Moreau who will go over how to use Tim Fisher's Ore Rock On DVD. Programs for the remainder of the year are to be determined.

The NW federation representatives, Walt and Gale Butler, explained what they do, and provided information about mid-year meeting at the Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club show at the Benton County Fairgrounds in Kennewick, WA on May 21-22. If club members are interested in the Northwest Rockhound Retreat teaching lapidary skills held on Sept 5-11, 2022, please email Walt at waltercbutler@comcast.net

We had show and tell and awarded many door prizes, and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Northwest Federation Newsletter

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

Business Cards:

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



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

