

**Return Bulletins to:
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**Dusty Rocks
April
2017**



**ROCK AND ARROWHEAD CLUB
P.O. BOX 1803
KLAMATH FALLS, OR 97601
www.klamathrockclub.org**

OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Laura Limb, 541-273-7503, 1528 Dayton St., Klamath Falls, 97603

Vice President: Kristin Sayles, 541-539-1452, 11575 Spring Lake Rd., Klamath Falls, 97603

Secretary/recorder: Cheryl Lee, 503-867-4112, 2226 Applegate Ave., Klamath Falls, 90601

Treasurer: Vacant

NFMS Director: Kathi Milem, 541-892-7371, 4045 Altamont, Klamath Falls, 97603

NMFS Delegate: Alyssa Carnes

Past President: Allen Hart

Member at Large: Marvin Stump

Club mailing address:

P.O. Box 1803, Klamath Falls, Ore., 97601

www.klamathrockclub.org

nicee1214@gmail.com

Rock and Arrowhead Club meetings are held at the Klamath County Museum Meeting Room @ Main and Spring Street, using the **West** entrance. Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 p.m., with the exception of December when we have our Christmas Luncheon and Party and after the March show.

Visitors are cordially invited: Dues are \$13.50 per year, per adult, and \$7.50 for ages 16-18. Families can join for \$25, plus \$1 per child.

General club objectives: To promote popular interest, knowledge and understanding in earth sciences, such as geology, mineralogy, paleontology, lapidary, and other related subjects.

To sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons interested therein.

Helping others: The club participates in the NFMS stamp program, saving large commemoratives, airmail, pre-canceled, and foreign stamps of all values. Proceeds from stamp sales will be used to benefit any charity deemed worthy by the NFMS Endowment Fund.

Committee Chairs

Sunshine Chris Chance
Program Doris Newnham
Greeter/Door prize
Refreshment Chris Chance
Historian Don Perryman
Librarian
Claims Rep Garwin Carlson
Field Trips Marv Stump
Black light display Marshall Curran
Show Chair Garwin Carlson
Asst Show Chair Marvin Stump
Safety Officer Jeff Eastburn
Webmaster Denise Sebastian

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THE NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER is published 11 times a year.

Copies are sent to each member's household. The cost is included in your annual dues.

Two free copies of the **AFMS NEWSLETTER** are mailed to each member club.

Subscriptions are available at \$3.50 for 9 issues. Send payment to:

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

PO Box 26523, Oklahoma City, OK, 73126

We are affiliated with

- ▶ Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
- ▶ American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Newsletter Editor

Lacey Jarrell: 541-401-4652
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Visit us at www.klamathrockclub.org

Please e-mail nicee1214@gmail.com to get on our e-mail list.

Reference to use of arrowheads within our club is limited to flint napping activities during workshops, annual shows, and personal creations. No gathering of arrowheads on field trips is authorized or suggested by any club member.



DUSTY ROCKS

~ Rock and Arrowhead Club ~ Klamath Falls, Oregon ~



From the President

Fellow Rock Hounds,

Spring is in the air. Thank you to all who helped make the 2017 Rock & Arrowhead Gem & Mineral show a success. It takes a group and I feel that we have the best group around. As the sun stays in the sky longer, I can't help but get the hanker'n to do some digging in the dirt. There are rocks out there that need finding. Remember to be safe as you begin to travel out this year.

It is with sadness that I report that our long time club member, Larry Phillips, had a stroke following our show in March. He is now at a rehab center in Eureka. The recovery will be long, but I know Larry has the will to get back out rock hounding as soon as possible. Please keep Larry and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Be safe and rock on.

Laura

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Next meeting: April 10, 2017

Refreshments: Mark and Lorrain Kochevar
with David Earnest



General Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2017, 7 p.m. Location: Klamath County Museum

The meeting was called to order by President Laura Limb at 7:04 p.m., followed by salute to the flag.

Birthday greetings to all born in March.

28 Members in attendance. Three door prizes were drawn.

Welcome to guests – James Klunness-Mshoi and the Petersons: Michael, Camilla, and Mary.

Note: A correction was noted after the meeting for the spelling of last month's guest: Juliet Buar-ton to Juliet Barton and Robin Mowery to Robin Jordan; thank you.

Review of the minutes - It was moved by Kristin Sayles and seconded by Lacey Jarrell to accept the minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Position Still Open - report was given by Laura Limb.

Northwestern Federation (NWF) Report - Kathi Milem: Nothing new to report. The Federation president, Hidemi Kira, and his wife were present at our Rock Show and were very impressed.

Sunshine Report - Chris Chance – Still here, but had not heard of any one ill at this time

Webmaster Report - Denise Sebastian: Nothing new and all is up to date.

Newsletter - Lacey Jarrell: New membership list is done and will work on the birthday list as it seems to have a few of errors. She needs articles on the Rock Show as well as anything on rock collecting or stories about rock collecting from the membership

March Rock Show - Marvin Stump says it was the BEST SHOW EVER! There were more volunteers helping with set up and tear down than there have been in years. This made it faster and easier. It is the Club's show and it takes everyone to make it run smoothly. Thank you to all. A Big Thank You! to the security guys and another thank you to the Bob and Barbara Massey for donating stones for the case favors. The Spaghetti feed fed 80 people. Saturday dinner served 63, and the Sunday breakfast served 39. All the vendors reported that they did well.

Wynne Broadcasting has offered a discounted subscription to their new online magazine, Basin Life, from \$45 to \$25 per month. The Club will pay for one year of advertising.

Marv moved and Leroy second that the Club donated \$500 to the horse charity. Motion passed.

The Rock Show review meeting is set for April 13, 2017, 6 p.m. at the Klamath Museum.

Club member field trips – no reports given everyone was at the Rock Show.

Club Field Trips: Marvin Stump – Potential schedule of field trips:

May 26–28: Hampton Butte east of Bend – petrified wood

June 17-18: Rye Patch Reservoir, NV – With Prospector's Club for quartz and metal detecting for gold

June 23–25: Plush, OR – Sunstone claim

July 14–16: Lassen Creek/Davis Creek, CA – obsidian

Aug 11–13 Virgin Valley, NV – opals

Sept (pndg) Tuledad – agate

Oregon Rock Shows:

April 1–2: Sweet Home Show

Roxy Ann Show - Central Point

April 7–9: Hillsboro – Gem Faire

April 14–16: Eugene – Gem Faire

Rickreall Rock and Gem Show

April 28–30: Portland, Mt Hood Rock Club Show

May 6–7: Roseburg – Umpqua Gem & Mineral Show

May 13–14: Hermiston – Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Show

May 20–21: Lakeview – Tallman Rock Chippers Gem & Mineral Show

May 27–28: Newport – Oregon Coast Agate Club Annual Show

The Federation Show is May 19–21 in Hamilton, MT

Old Business – Executive Board meeting to review by-laws did not have enough in attendance will reschedule for April.

New Business:

Volunteers for an audit committee were requested:

Lacey Jarrell, Kristin Sayles and Barbara Massey volunteered.

Program – Post show survival: short meeting, then go home to eat and sleep.

Next meeting: 7 p.m., April 10, 2017, at the Klamath County Museum.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Refreshments - None.

Refreshments List for the rest of the year:

April: Mark and Lorraine Kochevar with David Earnest

May: Marshall Curran and Garwin Carlson

June: Sam and Chris Chance

July: Bob and Barbara Massey

August: Denise Sebastian and Dennis Sly

September Tom and Cheryl Endicott with Jerry and Averil Anderson

October: Brian and Clarissa

November: Laura Limb and Denise Sebastian

December Christmas Party

Respectfully submitted by,

Cheryl Lee

Recorder

FOLLOW-UP SHOW COMMITTEE MEETING

This meeting is to discuss the March Rock and Gem Show and see how we can improve it for next year. We will kick around the good things and the things that can be improved on. This is an important meeting, so please come and discuss.

April 13, 6 p.m., at the Klamath County Museum meeting room.

- Marv Stump

April

April 1 - April Fool's Day

April 10 - Passover begins

April 14 - Good Friday

April 15 - Tax day

April 16 - Easter Sunday

April 22 - Earth Day

The Grinder

SHOW DATES

Eugene, Ore., April 14-16: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Lane County Events Center; 796 W 13th Ave; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5. Admission is \$7 for a weekend pass. Children 0-11 get in free. Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold and silver, minerals & much more at manufacturers' prices. Exhibitors from around the world. Jewelry repair & cleaning while you shop. Free hourly door prizes.

Rickreall, Ore., April 14-16: 62nd Annual Rock and Gem Show - Thundereggs, Willamette Agate and Mineral Society, Polk County Fairgrounds. 520 S Pacific Hwy W; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4. Admission \$2. Children under 12 get in free with adult. Willamette Agate and Mineral Society, a non-profit educational organization, presents the 62nd annual rock and gem show. This year's theme is thundereggs. This event includes multiple dealers, demonstrators, kid area games, silent auction, oral auction, kids' treasure hunt, education opportunities, and incredible display cases. Contact Mimi Surgeon, 503-602-9405 or e-mail: wams.riverofgems@gmail.com.

C-2 HYDRAULICS MAY HAVE O-RING TYPE BELTS FOR SMALL EQUIPMENT (TUMBLERS, TRIM SAWS, ETC.). WE HAVE USED THEM ON GY-ROC TUMBLERS AND THEY WORK GREAT. They are located at 5156 Harlan Drive, between Hope and Homedale. - Marv & Leah Stump

Have an item you don't want anymore?

Having a yard sale next month?

Contact newsletter editor Lacey Jarrell at lacey.jarrell@gmail.com and have your items listed for other club members to see.



FIRST LOOK AT 2017 FIELD TRIPS

By Marv Stump

The following is a summary of field trips for the coming summer. Final decisions will need to be made by the membership as they are discussed at the meetings. More information on each site can be found on the club's website: klamathrockclub.org.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND – May 27, 28, and 29. (Feel free to come earlier and stay later)

Hampton Butte for petrified rocks has been chosen for this year's outing. Agate and jasper can also be found. The wood in the vicinity of the campground is covered by 12 to 18 inches of pumice and fairly easy to dig. One tool to bring is a metal t-shaped rod about 3 feet long and ¼ to ½ inch in diameter. The rod is used to prod the ground until you find a rock, that you can then dig out and see what treasure you have found. Other petrified wood areas are located within a few miles of camp. Sometimes the weather gets wet this time of year and the native dirt roads are slippery, so come prepared.

Farther east and southerly of Highway 20 is Glass Butte Obsidian. Gold sheen, silver sheen, mahogany, black, red, brown, and rainbow can be found. To get there travel to Milepost 77 on Hwy 20, turn south and within a couple of miles you will start seeing obsidian. The major area is about 4 miles square.

We will plan a silent auction on Saturday evening and a potluck dinner Saturday evening, and again on Sunday evening if there is enough interest. If SOMEONE brings the STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE, I will bring the VANILLA ICE CREAM. To get there travel easterly from Bend on Highway 20, 52 miles. About ¼ mile past Milepost 52 turn northeasterly on graveled VAN LAKE ROAD, go 11 miles, maybe a little more, and then 2.2 miles east on Price-Twelve road, to the camp. Direction signs will be posted on the route from the highway to the camp. The signs will be white with the letters RAC in black, plus arrows showing which way to travel. There is also a map on the website showing the route and general area.

The camping area is located in old growth juniper and is quite a comfortable experience. It is a dry camp though and everyone needs to bring lots of water. There is a toilet on location that is in pretty nice shape and clean. It was evidently constructed by hunters who maintain it each year.

There is a by-pass around Bend for those of you who don't want to drive into Bend. South of Bend, on Hwy 97, take the Baker Road/Knott Road exit. Turn right onto Knott Road and this will take you around the east side of Bend, and connect you to Hwy 20. Turn right (east) onto Hwy 20. Gas stations, restaurants, etc., are located in this area.

WEEKEND OF JUNE 17 – MAJUBA MOUNTAIN AREA – NEVADA

This is a new area that the club has not explored before. It contains gold, tin, silver, and many more minerals and is located westerly of Rye Springs Reservoir. Our primary interest when Leah and I were there many years ago was quartz crystals of which we found many, including a 24 pound cluster. Logistics for the trip still need to be worked out.

There is a campground at the Rye Patch State (Nevada) Recreation Area (SRA) located on the southerly end of Rye Patch Reservoir just off I-80. The Majuba area is located westerly of Imlay, Nevada, which is located on Interstate 80 about halfway between Winnemucca and Lovelock, somewhere around 360 miles from K. Falls either through Lakeview or Reno. A good discussion at the April meeting might disclose more good things about the area

The river campground at the south end of the SRA has 22 camping units, flush toilets, hot showers, and a sanitary dump station with potable water. The westside unit has 25 units, flush toilets, and hot showers. Cost is \$14/night with a camping limit of 14 days in a 30 day period.

Phone: 775 538-7321

E-mail: ryepatchsra@gmail.com

June 23, 24, and 25- The Club's Sunstone Claims, 65 miles Northeast of Lakeview.

Garwin is the field leader for this event. The club has three sunstone claims covering approximately 57 acres located in the middle of the sagebrush country, no trees, no shade, primitive camping. You will need to bring water and shade. BLM has done a good job of fixing up the road into the sunstone area, it has a new gravel surface.

LASSEN CREEK/DAVIS CREEK LOCATED IN THE SOUTH WARNER'S FOR OBSIDIAN

Generally third weekend in July, which this year would be July 15, 16, and 17, with camping at Lassen Creek Campground.

A potluck and silent auction will also be part of the weekend, so bring a little extra food and some great rocks that you have to many of.

Obsidian can be obtained in electric blue, pink lady, mahogany, and rainbow colors, and obsidian needles. Lassen Creek



Campground is a beautiful grassy campground with large pine trees and Lassen Creek flowing along its easterly edge.

The campground is approximately 135 miles from Klamath Falls via either Alturas or Lakeview. The road into the campground is approximately 11 miles north of Davis Creek Store and 7 miles south of the Oregon/California border on Hwy 395. Turn east, this is County Road#47 (also signed as Forest Service Road #30). It is about seven miles easterly into the campground. A RAC club sign will be placed at the cattle guard just off the Highway. A few signs with RAC on them will guide you to the campground.

Davis Creek Store has a fabulous barbecue on Friday evenings that can certainly be one of the highlights of the weekend. Obsidian permits are required - they are free - and can be obtained at the Davis Creek Store.

See "Gem Trails of Northern California," specifically Lassen Creek, Fandango Pass, Sugar Hill, and Davis Creek sites for more information.

POTENTIAL FIELD TRIPS – Dates to be determined.

The Klamath Prospectors Club may offer a gold panning field trip, on Beaver Creek, located northwesterly of Yreka. Probably late August or early September. Details to be worked out later if the field trip materializes.

Virgin Valley Precious Opal - August 12 and 13, if there is enough interest.

Virgin Valley is located within the Sheldon Wildlife Refuge and opal can only be mined on private land and mining claims on a fee dig basis. We generally spend Saturday at a fee dig and Sunday on claims owned by John Church, a club member, however, we have yet to work out a trip on John's claims. Last year seven of us made this field trip, but we had a great time. Some fine precious opal was dug. There is a campground that has toilets, a natural heated shower and swimming pool, and several small trees for limited shade (if we get there first).

Virgin Valley is located in Northwest Nevada just south of the Oregon border, 100 miles from Lakeview via Highway 140. Travel time from Klamath Falls is around 3.5 to 4.5 hours depending on the type of vehicle and if pulling a trailer.

McDermitt, Nevada - No date set but suggested sometime in September or October. This is a large area located within a volcanic caldera, 30 to 50 miles across, on the Oregon/Nevada border north of Winnemucca. Most every type of rock can be found here. McDermitt is a small community that has a motel, RV park, casino, gas station, and a mini-market. You can either camp out or stay in town. It is a five- to six-hour drive so a field trip here should be a minimum of four or five days for maximum enjoyment.

TULEDAD CANYON – Southerly of Cedarville, Calif.

It has been several years since we have made a field trip to Tuledad Canyon. It has been suggested sometime in September if people are interested. Agate, jasper, and petrified wood will be found in this area. The camping area is approximately 170 miles from Klamath Falls, 70 miles from Alturas, and 45 miles from Cedarville. Fuel is available in Alturas and Cedarville.

The camping area is in the sagebrush in a small bowl - no shade or trees unless you find a tall sagebrush. Additional information later in the year if the club decides to go.

This makes for a full year of field trips. Club members may suggest other areas that would be of interest for a field trip. Please bring these areas up at one of the club meetings for discussion.

*April birthstone:
Diamond*

Diamonds have been admired for centuries, and some historians estimate it was traded as early as 4 BC. One of the reasons it is so admired and valued is because of the process by which a diamond must be formed well below the earth's crust, then forced upward until it is uncovered.



But before this process was understood, many ancient civilizations believed that diamonds were lighting made real on earth. Perhaps this is the reason that diamonds have often been associated with great healing powers. Many thought the diamond could cure brain disease, alleviate pituitary gland disorders and draw toxins from the blood.

Historically, the diamond first became a popular gemstone in India, when the Moghuls and Imperial Colony easily mined diamonds from deposits along three major rivers. Today, the diamond is most widely known as the stone to give as part of an engagement ring.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Robin Jordan
Larry Phillips
Bee Skog**

CARVED IN STONE

Finding wildlife inspiration in rocks, gemstones

Written by Kurt Liedtke for the Herald and News. Published March 5, 2017

It takes a wondrous eye and creative mind to see objects in clouds, but it is the shape of things to come from the ground that makes things come alive for Ray Ruddell through hours spent carefully carving rocks.

Ruddell has spent over a decade since his retirement from a successful tree trimming business discovering a new passion and skill. Gone are the days of carving away at tall trees, now he happily spends hours working with drills to make small intricate cuts drawing out detailed shapes.

Raised in California, Ruddell's early years were involved with wood, not stone. At age 10 he won a wood sculpting competition, and was always finding crafts to do in woodshop or building surfboards. In the late 1970s he began collecting rocks, particularly jade, but ever focused on career his carving passions would lay dormant for years. An encounter with a soapstone on a beach in the 1990s rekindled the interest, where a few minutes of carving with a pocket knife yielded something surprising.

"I was just on the beach one day and found this soapstone," reflected Ruddell. "I wasn't really thinking about it, I just started carving and out came a little elephant. I thought, 'wow, I just did that!' It got me thinking that maybe I could do more."

After retiring in 2005, Ruddell got more serious about his craft. He bought carving tools and built a shop where he could begin tinkering with his vast collection of opal, jade, aquamarine and more that he had collected for decades. Following hours of intricate work shapes began to appear like fish, eagles, octopi and whales. Nearly everything he carves becomes some form of wildlife, working to let emerge from the chips of stone whatever animal he first sees in the raw material.

His first project was a large clump of jade which he made into a school of fish, then molded a wooden whale around it to display the finished piece. From that initial moment of inspiration have sprung many more projects, including several octopi where Ruddell has taken the time to carve out individual suction cups on the arms, or



Ray Ruddell works in his shop. A self-taught rock sculptor, Ruddell sees images in rocks the way people see shapes in clouds, and he brings animals to life from out of the rocks and gems he collects. Photo by Kurt Liedtke.

an eagle amulet complete with metal talons.

While Ruddell's background had been working with wood, he found a desire to work on stones as it requires more time and patience, and allows for more leeway. Whereas wood products can be faster to mold, there is also more room for errors to ruin a project.

"I don't know if it was a conscious decision to not work in wood, but I've always loved stones and have been constantly curious," said Ruddell. "I started working with stones because you have to go slow, and it's a lot more difficult to make an error rendering a stone rather than wood."

Initially Ruddell's carving work was just a hobby, something to pass the time and give away as gifts. He made carvings for family members while refining his skills, and eventually attended a farmer's market in California where he garnered tremendous positive feedback for his work. Ruddell began bringing his work to more markets, and when he and his wife moved to Klamath Falls two years ago he joined the Rock and Arrowhead Club, finding a great

group of like-minded individuals with a passion for carving.

Through the club Ruddell's work has been featured at Klamath Falls Saturday Markets, and this year he plans to be more heavily involved in the club's events. His work will be prominently featured at the upcoming Rock Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show held March 11-12 at the Klamath County Fairgrounds.

"I really appreciate the members of the local rock club," said Ruddell. "There's a lot of unique talents here. I was surprised, there's 30-40 people in the club that are all really involved and they've welcomed me."

Every piece Ruddell makes is original, taking upwards of 18-20 hours of work each to intricately carve into the finished products. While he draws immediate inspiration from whatever the stone initially appears as, he does follow some patterns for his most popular items – jade amulets and ocean jasper earrings. His works may be small in stature but they carry a hefty price tag, the result of the many hours dedicated to each piece.

"People seem to love my work,

Continued on page 8

Stone continued from page 7

everyone wants to pick everything up and look at it, but maybe not reach for their wallets,” laughed Ruddell. “Sometimes they’ll say how wonderful it is, but when they see the price tag they put it back down.”

To Ruddell it’s not about sales, but fulfilling an unending desire to constantly carve. Seeing others appreciate his work provides a great thrill, but while his earrings may sell often the higher priced items are a harder sell, priced as such because of the many hours committed to completing it. Ruddell’s prices range from \$25 earrings into the hundreds of dollars for individual carvings, all predicated on the amount of hours dedicated towards creating each unique design.

“I just have a blast doing this, I can spend hours carving away,” explained Ruddell. “There’s a lot of passion in it, if nobody buys it that’s ok, I’ll give them away as gifts before I sell them for less.”

When not carving Ruddell can be found planning his next prospecting excursion to collect more materials. He does purchase some raw materials online, but most of his work comes from trips to beaches and collection areas diligently on the hunt for jade and rocks. He plans to try gold panning in California for the first time later this year as well.

A deeply religious person, Ruddell carries on him at all times proof of how his beliefs helped him carve a new path in life from his past hectic and bad-habit forming life in California. Of his many pieces of jade, he showed some of his older pieces to a friend at his home one day along with a new set of collected jade stones he had recently found. His friend noticed a similarity in one of the new pieces of jade alongside one he had found years prior, clicking them together to form a perfect fit. Amidst the millions of rocks washed ashore, found years apart, somehow Ruddell had discovered two broken pieces of the same jade clump to make it whole again. Those pieces he now keeps in a pouch, which he happily shows off as proof of a higher power guiding him through astronomical odds.

While Ruddell’s carvings will be prominently displayed at the 31st annual Rock, Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, his work will be just one of many local artisans displaying unique discoveries and finished products across two days at the Klamath County Fairgrounds. The event will also feature thunder egg cutting demonstrations, arrowhead knapping, silver-smithing, wire-wrapping and gemstone identification. Numerous vendors will also have jewelry, gemstones and artwork available for purchase.

For kids, the show will feature a wheel of fortune, treasure hunts, face-painting and a ‘treasure sandbox’ to explore. Throughout both days there will be raffles and door prizes as well. Admission to the event is \$2, free for kids 12 and under.

HUGE ROCK SALE

May 5 to May 14

Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Howard and Jeannette Bushman of Sherwood, Ore., are selling out. Below is the announcement letter:

We are having a huge Rockhound Sale May 5 through May 14 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. You and your club members are welcome to come visit. See rocks and buy. Real cheap prices. Make it a field trip.

I am selling my machinery at 1/2 of 2013 catalog new prices.

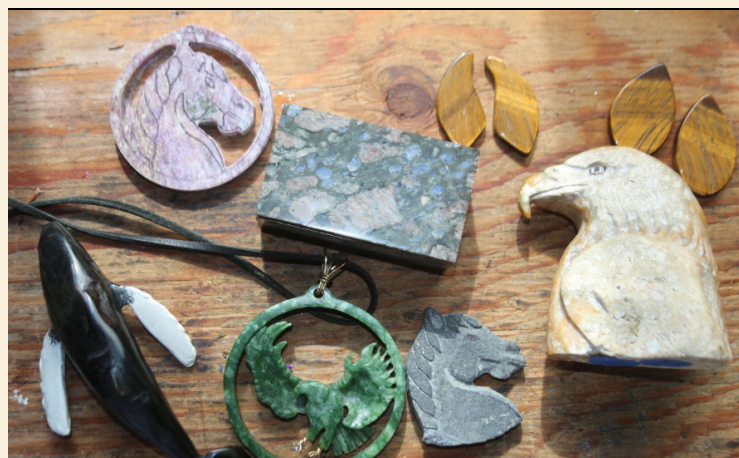
Also we have jewelry at half price. We also have beads, facet stones, 2,500 cabs, silversmith tools, rough rock and slabs, all cheap. Tons of rough at \$1 per pound.

Also selling my private stock of very good rock and our fluorescent case with short and long wave lights and a moving display that rotates.

Many tables full of various rockhound things. Empty grass seed plastic bags at \$3 for 21, measure about 20 x 36 inches.

Just off Torze (hope this is spelled right) Road at SW 147 to Glade Lane. Go to end.

Howard and Jeannette Bushman
14901 S.W. Glade Lane
Sherwood, OR 97140
503-625-5177



Jade, opal, aquamarine and stone -- Ray Ruddell finds all kinds of unique animal shapes in raw stones and gems he collects on his prospecting ventures. Photo by Kurt Liedtke.