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Dusty Rocks

**August
2018**

ROCK AND ARROWHEAD CLUB

P.O. BOX 1803

KLAMATH FALLS, OR 97601

www.klamathrockclub.org



DUSTY ROCKS

Rock and Arrowhead Club ~ Klamath Falls Oregon



OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE BOARD

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NFMS Delegate: Alyssa Carnes

Member @ Large: Leah Stump

www.klamathrockclub.org
Webmaster Denise Sebastian,
nicee1214@gmail.com Send your items for sale, photos, adventures, etc

Rock and Arrowhead Club Meetings are held at the Klamath County Museum Meeting Room – Main & Spring Streets, using the **West** entrance

Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm with the exception of December when we have our Christmas Luncheon and Party and after the March show, when the meeting is held on Tuesday.

Visitors are cordially invited to all meetings. To join:

Dues are \$13.50 per year per adult (\$25 for families plus \$1 per child), \$7.50 ages 16-18

The club mailing address is:
PO Box 1803, Klamath Falls OR 97601

General Objectives of the Club:

To promote popular interest, knowledge and understanding in the various earth sciences, as in Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology and 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.

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Committee Chairs

- Sunshine.....Chris Chance
- Program.....Kristin Sayles
- Greeter/Door Prize.....
- Refreshments.....Chris Chance
- Historian.....Don Perryman
- Librarian.....
- Claims Rep.....Garwin Carlson
- Field Trips.....
- Black Light Display.....Marshall Curran
- Show Chair.....Garwin Carlson
- Asst Show Chair.....
- Safety Officer.....Laura Limb
- Publisher/ Webmaster...Denise Sebastian

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

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& Linda Stroope 503-393-5025

Visit Us At www.klamathrockclub.org Contact Webmaster Denise Sebastian nicee1214@gmail.com for anything relating to our website
Please e-mail mrsllas@ccountry.net to join & get on our email 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 members.

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From the President...

Hello Fellow Rockhounds, I hope that you are safe at your homes as fires are all around us. Your life matters more than your rock polishers :) Our July field trip was lean in people and strong in collection. We enjoyed very nice days in the woods and collected many treasures.

We are reminded how fragile our environment is in light of the recent devastation in Redding, CA and Southern Oregon & Northern California. Add these areas and people to your prayers. Please remember to carry an axe, water and a shovel in your rig at all times.

Stay safe and rock on!!!

Your President, Laura Limb

NEXT MEETING:

Monday 8/13/18, 7 pm

Treats: Barbara Massey & Chris Chance

Happy Birthday

- Archie Cummings
- Roy Nederbrock
- Gene Newnham
- Diana Robinson
- Ray Ruddall
- Bruce Vait
- Roger Vait



If we've missed you it's because our master list lacks your info. Help us update it, thanks!
Contact Leah Stump

Save the dates!

Rock shows— see last page 8/13



Tuledad—TBD Discussion at the August meeting. Proposed: 9/21-23, not Labor Day weekend as previously published

Christmas Party Sunday, Dec 10



Rock and Arrowhead Club
General Meeting Minutes of July 9, 2018 7:00 pm
Location: Klamath Museum



The meeting was called to order by President, Laura Limb, at 7:00 pm, followed by salute to the flag.

Birthday greetings to all born in the month of July.

33 Members in attendance - Three door prizes were drawn by Lacey, Jack Smith, Hannah Mogle

Welcome to guests – Jack Smith, Hannah Mogle and Charlene Mogle

Review of the June minutes - Laura clarified that Robert is not stepping down as treasurer. It was moved by Barbara Massey and seconded by Don Perryman to accept the minutes as clarified. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Robert Stroope gave the update on the RAC account.

Northwestern Federation (NWF) Report - Kathi Milem – Absent - Nothing new at this time.

Sunshine Report - Chris Chance – None that she knew of.

Webmaster Report - Denise Sebastian – no changes to report.

Newsletter - Linda Stroope and Chris Chance - Feel free to submit pictures and articles for your rock hound adventures.

Club member field trips –

Tom and Cheryl Endicott - Prineville Pow-Wow - good show - went on the Friends Ranch tour to dig thunder eggs. The Stroopes, Bielers and Limbs were in attendance as well.

LeRoy and Peggy Bieler went to the Lucky Strike thunder egg mine - bought some eggs from their store. Also visited forest service sites for agates.

Dennis Sly, Denise Sebastian and Laura Limb - went to a fee dig after visiting the sunstone claim and did well - Dennis found 4 50 carat stones while Laura found a 200 carat stone

Club Field Trips: ***We still need a volunteer to manage the club field trips:***

Sunstone trip went well with 20 people in attendance with 10 of them from Roseburg. Craig Heath of Port Angeles, WA, donated 4 green rocks for the silent auction.

Yadenite trip had a smaller attendance than last year. Digging was difficult due to the matted grass. Chris Chance and Linda Stroope provided cookies and water and Chris made more decorated denim collection bags, which were greatly appreciated.

July 21 - 22 Lassen Creek/Davis Creek, CA – obsidian - Don Perryman will set out the signs. There will be a silent auction and a potluck Saturday night. Don't forget to get your permits. Everyone to meet Friday at Davis Creek Store for their barbecue dinner.

Aug Pending - Social Security Bar - coast trip - agates and jasper AND/OR Virgin Valley for opals - Need guides or leaders for both.

Sept Pending - Tuledad – agate

Sept/Oct Date pending Potential gold panning at Beaver Creek in California - Needs to be coordinated with Prospector's Club

July Minutes, cont'd

Old Business –

Meeting Programs for the rest of the year:

Aug: Opals TBD

Sept: Tuledad agate - Robert & Linda Stroope

Oct: How to make a cabochon - Don Perryman

Nov: Tumbling rocks or wire wrapping or gem trees - Leah, Denise and ?

Dec: Christmas Potluck - Sunday, Dec. 10th

Future idea: Silversmithing

New Business: None

Other: Garwin Carlson shared a quilt made by his wife which had photo samples of the Hart Mountain agates and jaspers.

Marshall Curran had a bucket of rocks from his collection which he shared with the members.

Program – Chuck Newnham gave a presentation on obsidian. How to polish, where to find different colored obsidian and what not to do when digging and collecting.

Next meeting: August 13, 2018 - 7:00 pm at the Klamath County Museum

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40 pm

Refreshments: Cheryl and Tom Endicott – thank you for providing the evening refreshments.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cheryl Lee,

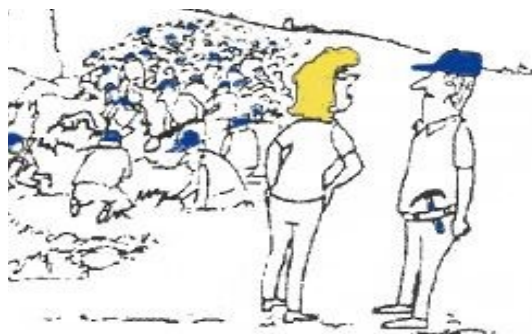
Recorder

Chuck Newnham mentioned during his presentation last month that he has a couple of hundred lbs of tumbler material he will donate to those who are tumbling for the 2019 spring show.

He can be reached at
(541) 892-7486

Thanks Chuck!

*Remember to collect
tumbler material everyone.
Also rocks for the painters.*



"This the nice isolated spot that no other rockhounds know about?"

Yadenite!

ONLY in Klamath Falls. Our combined outing with Todd Kepple of the Klamath County Museum was Saturday, July 7, 10 am, ICOR parking lot on New Way off Dan O'Brien, up behind OIT. This year's turnout didn't match last year's excellent attendance, probably due to the fact that Todd had forgotten to talk it up on Facebook. Last year, most of those attending had heard about it on FB, when asked. He said he'd be sure to remember for next year and we can remind him, as well.

Fewer people but we still had a good time and met some prospective new members, as well.



New members!



Ron Loveness

Jack Smith

Hazel & Otis Wade

Lassen Creek Field Trip for Obsidian July 20-22, 2018

It was a small group this year, with Laura Limb & daughter Rachel, Denise Sebastian & her dad Dennis Sly, Don Perryman and Robert & Linda Stroope. I saw several filled buckets in the back of two pickups, but am not sure what Laura, Denise & group were going for this year. Don Perryman picked up some material at the Middle Fork, Davis Creek site and advised the rest of us that the road is now closed to vehicle travel; walk in collecting only. It is posted "due to theft this area is open only to foot traffic". We were in search of some of the striped gray material and found some nice pieces.

The pink lady site revealed a couple of nice specimens, which I promptly lost! Oh well, enjoyed them for a few minutes. The forest was sun dappled and lovely.

The needles area was open for collecting (we had been chased off by a young man with a commercial permit in 2017) and picked up some lovely mahogany.

Our Saturday night potluck was small, but very good! Denise's casserole was outstanding.

On Sunday after the others left (e.g., those unfortunate enough not to be retired yet), we were treated to drive up to the top of Sugar Mtn where there's a lookout and some hang gliders who were camped nearby invited us up to watch. Like nothing I'd ever seen in person, for sure. While we were there, a truckload of CalFire guys came by and another truck of search & rescue guys. Everyone was fascinated by what the gliders were up to.

It's a lovely place to camp, rocks or not.

Linda Stroope

PS and when they say "generous portions" for the Friday night BBQ at the Davis Creek store, *believe them!* Robert & I could easily have shared the 1/2 tri-tip dinner instead of getting a 1/2 each. As it was, we froze the leftovers and have had additional two meals already, with enough meat left for another. French dips and tri-tip burritos—fabulous!

Pink!! Sorry for those of you who can't see these in color with email.



Dennis mining for blue



Laura on the hunt!



Lassen Creek photos

Don Perryman with a morning cup of Joe



Denise with something promising!



Mother/daughter moment with Laura & Rachel Limb

John Aldrich



Bob Wilson hunting Sunstones



Schiller! Just what we want!

Garwin hard at it as always...



Eric's pocket

Rocks and Minerals Word Search

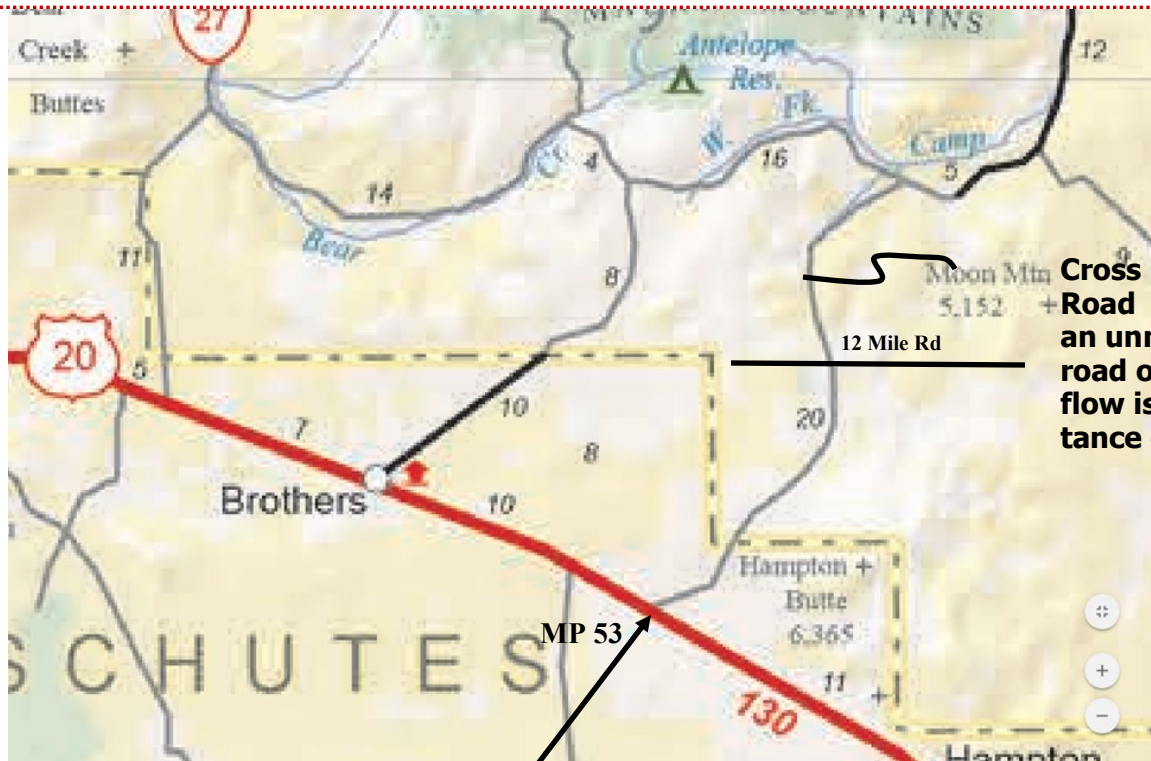
Instructions: Try to find all of the hidden rock and mineral words in the word search puzzle below. Words can be spelled forwards, backwards, diagonally, up, or down.



Word List		
ALABASTER	HEMATITE	SHALE
AMBER	LEPIDOLITE	SLATE
DOLOMITE	LIMESTONE	SULFUR
EMERALD	MUSCOVITE	VULCANITE

Electric blue example from Chris Chance

Come see an Ash Flow A easy day trip and an interesting site
by Chris Chance



Cross 12 Mile Road & watch for an unmarked road on right. Ash flow is a short distance on the left

GPS
43.88796
120.308750

Van Lake Road abt 22 miles total, to the site. This turnoff is not far from the green wood collection site

I never went out rockhounding to look for ash flow, but it found me. We were at Hampton Butte digging for green wood (and did find some) but decided to take a ride and see what the rest of the area had to offer. My husband Sam & I left our mentors Leah & Marv, Doris & Gene and Larry Phillips to continue their digging and went off to explore.

That is when we found a dirt road to the right off Van Lake Rd, past 12 Mile Rd and discovered strange piles of rocks, on top of a small mountain, piled up and tumbling down the sides. All sizes of rocks and large boulders were made of gray ash with small pebbles and all shapes & sizes of petrified wood chips.



Ash Flow, cont'd



We didn't have a clue what we'd discovered, only that we'd never seen anything quite like it and the unusual location for the area. Upon returning home to the computer, I came to the conclusion it must be ash flow from a volcano somewhere in Central Oregon. The ash flow with its force blasted rocks and pieces of wood hips up where the direction of

wind carried the whole mass where it finally settled to the surface of this particular mountain. On a state map, the name is listed as Moon Mountain at an elevation of 52315 feet and the with the appearance of the deposited ash flow, a proper name for it.

Some of the names used for this ash flow are Tephra-showers of ash blown by the prevailing winds at the time of the blast. One time frame referenced as 75,000 years ago, when Paulina Peak blew, as well as Sisters and Newberry. This is all conjecture on my part, based on a mix of information from USGS and several professional papers written on the subject. The time frame is said to be late Miocene to early Pliocene. Included in the ash is welded soda-rhyolite tuff breccia plus pumice, rhyolite, augite, ilmenite, apatite, magnetite, zircon, labradorite and olivine...not altogether in one flow, but over many eruptions over a time period and many different sources.

➡ Referencing the map on pg 10.....at Mile Post 53 on Hwy 20, east of Brothers, is a sign posted road named Van Lake Rd. Its name does not appear on many maps, but the sign is clearly posted on Hwy 20. Follow Van Lake Rd. to where it crosses 12 Mile Rd (also well posted). You will pass 3 driveways of private ranches but at the 4th is a dirt road between juniper trees. The ash flow area isn't far and is best walked, due to the extreme fire danger in the dead grass & brush.



October's birthstone: OPAL

We all know they're beautiful, but what exactly are they? Opals are hydrated (water filled) forms of silica. Opal is the product of seasonal rains that drenched dry grounds in regions such as Australia's Outback, in Nevada at mines in the (Virgin Valley area with which we're all familiar (Royal Peacock, Rainbow Ridge, Bonanza) and even some places in Oregon (Opal Butte in Morrow County, for example) Idaho, Mexico and Ethiopia. Over 90% of them do come from Australia. Our Oregon volcanic rock is perfect for pockets which enabled silica to seep in and pool, but only about 10% of the Opal Butte stones are gem quality and of those, perhaps 1% show any play-of-color.. Just take a look at Garwin Carlson's belt buckle if you don't think there are incredible opals in Idaho! The website agatesaustrailia.com is a place to view them as the website is laid out by color & geographic area and is a place to easily compare & contrast colors and designs. The flashing rainbow colors they display are called play-if-color and opals considered "precious" possess this. "Common" opal is opaque and shows no play-of-color. We found red & blue common opal at a very high spot Richardson Ranch, near Madras, several years ago. It wasn't useful for anything but was interesting to look at, seeing how the opal grew within the matrix.



Play-of-color occurs in precious opal because it's made up of sub-microscopic spheres stacked in a grid-like pattern—like layers of Ping-Pong balls in a box. As the light waves travel between the spheres, the waves diffract, or bend. As they bend, they break up into the colors of the rainbow, called spectral colors. Play-of-color is the result.

From Opal Butte, OR



Although experts divide gem opals into many different categories, five of the main types are:

- *White or light opal: Translucent to semi-translucent, with play-of-color against a white or light gray background color, called bodycolor.
- *Black opal: Translucent to opaque, with play-of-color against a black or other dark background.
- *Fire opal: Transparent to translucent, with brown, yellow, orange, or red bodycolor. This material—which often doesn't show play-of-color—is also known as "Mexican opal."
- *Boulder opal: Translucent to opaque, with play-of-color against a light to dark background. Fragments of the surrounding rock, called matrix, become part of the finished gem.
- *Crystal or water opal: Transparent to semitransparent, with a clear background. This type shows exceptional play-of-color.

OPALS, cont'd

Why do we see opals in vials of liquid at shows, or in people's homes?

According to a 'facts & myths' article from Opals Down Under, *Australian* opal is non-porous and therefore impervious - it cannot soak up water, oil, or anything else. The water content in an opal is determined during the formation of the stone, with water molecules locked into tiny voids within the opal's crystalline silicon structure. They add that oiling your opal / opal jewelry will result only in oily opals.

Are Virgin Valley opals, then, unstable and must be in liquid before being transformed into jewelry using a doublet or triplet method? Also Idaho and Oregon opal? What about Mexican? "Yes" is the answer, according to a consensus of opinions I researched on the Internet. Some dealers in dry opals use the "3 year rule", where if a piece of rough opal has been dry for two years with no crazing, then it's probably ok. Cut stones are guaranteed if cut and under lights for 3 years. This topic is complex and I found many conflicting opinions in my research. I would like to have input from our member Opal experts, including Garwin Carlson and Bruce Vait, who actually owns a portion of a Virgin Valley mine. An opal presentation is on our RAC schedule for the August meeting. I'm anxious to learn much more about these beauties.

Linda Stroope

Word of the day: **Botryoidal** *say what?*

This word is derived from the Greek botrus [bunch of grapes], and is used to refer to any mineral that has formed in globular, rounded blobs, which could be said to look somewhat like grapes.

The botryoidal habit is caused by hundreds of very tiny, slender crystals growing from a central point for each rounded mass. The tops of the crystals are smooth and blend with each other, so individual crystal edges are not noticeable - unless you break one open, and then you can usually see the crystals radiating outwards.

Getting more technical (this is for you, Marshall...)

Reniform and *mammillary* crystal habits are basically the same thing as botryoidal, all that really differs is the size of the blobs. Reniform is the largest, with mammillary in the middle and botryoidal at the small end. However, most people who aren't mineralogists just use *botryoidal* to describe them all.



Editor's Corner

When my husband & I moved to Oregon, he was into hunting and fishing. I was into cooking and gardening and neither of us knew about rocks. That was in 1984 and since then we have seen our share of rocks and related subjects. We are involved with many activities in the Rock Club and shows as well as Linda & I prepare the newsletter each month—this our 8th. I now can officially claim to be an accomplished leaverite collector.

Chris Chance, co-editor email chrischance38@msn.com

Special thanks to several of you for sharing photos! And to Don Perryman for Putting out the RAC signs for the Lassen Creek outing. Robert & I plan to go to Tuledad the 3rd weekend in September and hope others will join us and that we can make it an 'official' RAC outing...to be discussed at the August meeting.

Linda Stroope, co-editor email stroopemail@gmail.com

Some upcoming shows:

- Ashland Rocks! Gem & Mineral Show, Wesley Hall 175 N Main, Corner of Laurel & Main behind the Methodist Church Aug 25-26 scottsrocks.com for more info
- Canby annual show, Clackamas Co Fairgrounds Aug 31—Sept 3 More info: Sari @ 503-705-1520
- Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society, Community Activities Bldg. 1400 Roosevelt Ave, Redwood City Sept 15-16
- Clackamette Mineral & Gem annual show Clackamas Co Fairgrounds Oct 27-28
- Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society, Nevada Co Fairgrounds Grass Valley, CA Oct 6-7

Members, if you attend another club's show, be sure to take note of things that club might be doing that we could consider adopting, ourselves. Report back at a meeting or email Chris or Linda and we can bring it up at the next meeting. Our show is fabulous but there's always room for improvement.

