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Dusty Rocks

**October
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



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NFMS Director: Kathi Milem
3333 Anderson #3 Klamath Falls, OR 97603

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

Newsletter Editors

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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 Rock Hounds,

Hard to believe that 2018 is almost in the books. With the smoke this year, I feel that I did not have a chance to get out and collect as much as I had planned. I will just have to make up the time next summer.

I hope that you were able to collect bigger rocks for our March show. If you get them to one of our club members, we will attempt to polish at least one end of the rock. We have found that a polished end greatly helps to increase the bids in the silent auction.

As we near the holidays, take the time to be thankful for the many blessings that you have received over the last year.

Your President

Laura Limb

NEXT MEETING:

Monday 10/8/18, 7 pm

Treats: Chris & Linda

(Nov treats: Denise & Laura)

Happy Birthday



Johne Behner
Alice Branson
Marvin Garrett
Bill Neal
Camilla Peterson
Cindy Sheridan

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!



Oct 27-28 Outing to Brookings area

Rock shows— see last page

RAC's Annual Fall Craft Show 11-3/4

Christmas Party Sunday, Dec 9

Party Pot luck signup sheet available starting with the October meeting.



Rock and Arrowhead Club
General Meeting Minutes of September 10 , 2018 7:00 pm
Location: Klamath Museum



The meeting was called to order by President, Laura Limb, at 7:02 pm, followed by salute to the flag.

Birthday greetings to all born in the month of September.

26 Members in attendance - There were three lucky door prizes winners.

Welcome to 1 guest – Joshua Johnson

Review of the August minutes - It was moved by Marshall and seconded by Robert to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Robert Stroope gave the monthly report on the RAC account. Annual dues will be due in October, remember to bring exact amount if paying with cash.

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

Sunshine Report - Chris Chance – Patti Bennett had knee surgery. A card for Averil Anderson was circulated. Larry Phelps is in therapy for his hip.

There are two new additions to the Limb family, a boy and a girl. Congratulations Grandma and Grandpa Limb.

Webmaster Report - Denise Sebastian – no changes to report, site is up to date.

Newsletter - Linda Stroope and Chris Chance - Still welcoming pictures and articles from your rock hound adventures + input on article ideas.

Club member field trips –

Denise Sebastian - Brookings, OR, for jasper

Tom Endicott - ordered gravel from Montana to sift through for sapphires.

Bob - participated in two shows: one in Chiloquin and one in Rocky Pointe

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

Sept 21 - 23 Tuledad – agate – “hosts” are Robert and Linda Stroope

Oct 27 - 28 Oregon Coast, Brookings - Social Security Bar, Pistol River, Agnes and the beach along the coast. Details to be provided at the October meeting. Denise Sebastian will be the leader.

New Business –

*Bob suggested that the RAC consider managing the Arts on the Fly in 2019, 2018 is not happening due to no volunteers and organizers.

*Kristin Sayles, as vice president, will organize nominations committee. The positions open are: President and Vice President. Elections will be held during November meeting.

*Round of applause and appreciation expressed to Gene Newnham for his years of thunderegg donations to the Klamath Museum.

Minutes, cont'd

*Starting with the October meeting, there will be a change in the meeting format. The program will be first and the business meeting will be second.

Meeting Programs for the rest of the year:

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. 9th

Future idea: Silver smithing

Old Business: None

Program – Robert Stroope provided samples and informational handouts on the Tuledad jasper. Thank you, Robert, it was very informative.

Next meeting: October 8, 2018 - 7:00 pm at the Klamath County Museum

Meeting Adjourned at 7:35 pm

Refreshments: Provided by Bruce Vait, Chris Chance, Leah Stump and Kristin Sayles– thank you for the yummy refreshments.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cheryl Lee,

Recorder



It's that time of year again - annual dues are due. Thanks for those of you who have already renewed. If you are paying in cash at a meeting, please bring exact change or write a check to RAC.

Why October and not January 1? Because we report our membership and pay the NWS, the NW Federation accordingly each January 1. That gives us 3 months to get everyone's renewals in place before we remit our dues to them.

October Word Puzzle

P	C	R	I	S	T	O	B	A	L	I	T	E	S	D	A
Y	L	L	O	T	I	O	A	P	G	D	R	C	I	U	L
R	E	A	B	L	N	I	S	A	L	P	I	K	J	H	M
O	F	E	G	T	I	O	A	T	A	R	D	W	E	S	E
X	L	T	V	I	U	W	L	I	S	P	Y	H	A	N	T
E	Z	I	R	C	O	N	T	T	S	O	M	I	C	A	E
N	O	N	V	B	E	C	S	E	L	M	I	T	O	M	O
E	A	O	K	I	U	C	L	A	L	Y	T	R	P	P	R
Z	X	G	H	L	N	S	S	A	M	N	E	Q	P	H	I
T	B	A	J	M	F	E	L	D	S	P	A	R	E	I	T
R	E	R	V	E	H	O	L	L	Y	E	U	T	R	B	E
A	M	A	J	N	I	C	K	E	L	T	G	I	G	O	T
U	A	A	R	I	P	O	W	E	I	Z	I	R	B	L	I
Q	U	A	R	T	Z	P	O	L	W	A	T	O	M	E	P
S	P	I	N	E	L	C	E	K	J	H	E	N	H	I	T
W	E	S	L	Y	A	N	O	R	T	H	O	S	I	T	E

See Marshall for definitions & any questions about pronunciation ©

anorthosite
basalt
plagioclase
feldspar
mica
tin

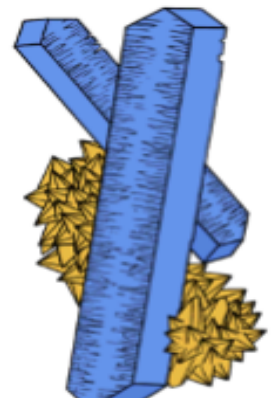
pyroxene
augite
rutile
quartz
amphibole
iron

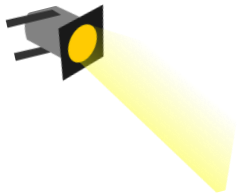
olivine
ilmenite
cristobalite
apatite
aragonite
nickel

glass
spinel
tridymite
zircon
copper
meteorites



What mineral am I?
I can be colorless, white, pale blue, pink, pale green, pale brown, black, but my name comes from the fact that I am often pale sky-blue. I crystallize in the orthorhombic crystal system. I am the most important source of the element Strontium. My name is _____.



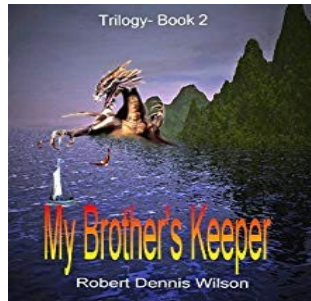
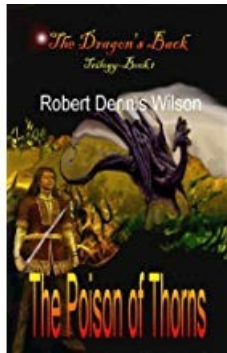
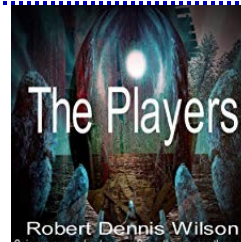


Spotlight on Bob Wilson & Tuledad 2018

By Chris Chance



Did you know we have a published author in our midst? Chris Chance took the opportunity to find out more about Bob on our weekend to Tuledad...when she could corner him between loads of jasper, that is!



These are fast-paced Sci-Fi & Fantasy novels with Spiritual Warfare, Good-VS-Evil themes. The "good guys" always win in the end, but, Oh the journey! (Amazon)

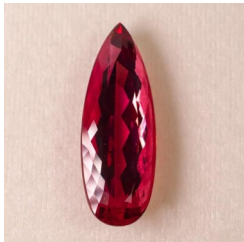
Bob, his wife Joyce and their two Dachshunds live in Klamath Falls, having located here from the East Coast to be closer to one of their four adult children. Our jasper, sunstones & agates were new to him. The East has 'weather' but no volcanoes! Bob is an active hiker and that alone was enjoyable, up, down & around the Tuledad canyon hills, but the bonus of all that jasper was a real treat for him. Bob is someone who "puts his rocks to work" creatively, looking for ideas in the stones, themselves. He came prepared with 5 gallon buckets and a hand truck.

The weather was incredible: mid 70's during they day and low 40's at night with a very bright, full moon. Bob was tenting it and was visited by some local donkeys on our first night there.



In addition to being an amateur rock hound & jewelry maker, Bob is also a singer-songwriter, a scroll saw artist and stone carver & sculptor. His background is both technical and creative, as a programmer, technical writer and puts his BA in Biblical Education to good use in support roles for churches, missions and para-church organizations.





The Smithsonian celebrates a new gem acquisition, the Whitney Flame topaz. Named for donor & long time Smithsonian benefactor Coralyn Whitney, this is not your local jeweler's inexpensive blue stone, but a topaz of a different color, fiery red. Imperial, or 'precious' topaz is typically golden orange in hue, but nothing at all like this vibrant red. It was mined in Ouro Preto, Brazil and owes its red color to the addition of chromium into the usual mix that makes a topaz a topaz: aluminum, silicon, oxygen & fluorine. And unlike the blue of mass marketed topaz, author Smith states that this red cannot be lab created. This particular stone was mined 50 years ago and according to minerals curator Jeffrey Post, is by far & away the most spectacular, prized stone unearthed in the 300+ years the mine has been in operation. The Whitney Flame weighs in at just under 49 carats.

Submitted by Lacey Jarrell from this month's online Smithsonian magazine. The original article is by Ryan P Smith and photo by Donny Bajohr.

Still Think It's Jade?

Lapidaries and jewelers should constantly attempt to call gemstones and rough materials by their correct names. The term jade is applied to many non-jade stones, such as: Korean jade is bowenite, a hard variety of serpentine; Transvaal jade is a massive variety of green, grossular garnet; Amazon jade is aventurine; American jade is a rock - a mixture of idocrase and grossular; Australian jade is chrysoprase; Colorado jade is green microcline; Jasper jade is green jasper; Flukien, Manchurian and Honan jades are all soapstone; Mexican jade is green-dyed marble or calcite; Oregon jade is dark green jasper; Silver peak jade is malachite. It would be clearer to beginners if jade were called jade, malachite called malachite, aventurine called aventurine.

From Carmel Valley Prospector Via Gravel Gazette 10/01



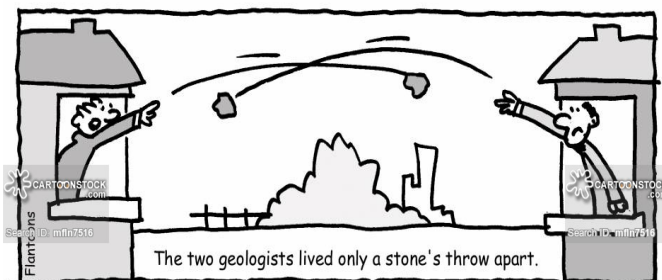
"This map says there's suppose to be geodes around here."

*via Gneiss Times 6/02
Gem-N-i.org 8/10*

Lincoln's Marble Leaks!

Did you know the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC is sprouting stalactites and stalagmites in its basement? This phenomenon is caused by water seeping through the marble. Though the Memorial is a little over 55 years old, the formations have grown several feet in length. When the Memorial was built, engineers sank 122 cylinders to bedrock 50 feet underground. The base of the Memorial is set high above ground on a rectangular platform, thus forming a cavernous space beneath the floor. This is where the stalactites and stalagmites are growing.

Souce: Rockhound Ramblings—February 2006



Wonders of a Crystal

A crystal is one of the strangest objects of nature. It is not alive, yet it grows. A crystal attracts the same kind of materials of which it is composed, arranges them with great accuracy in geometrical forms, cements the parts together and holds them. Place a crystal in a liquid, or vapor composed of the same ingredients as the crystal and the process of accumulation immediately begins. If a crystal was broke in two parts and placed in a bath of liquefied crystal, the broken surface will be repaired and each part will grow into another crystal, providing the other conditions favorable for crystal growth are present.

Even after a crystal has been worn until it is but a rounded grain of sand, it will speedily become a crystal again if placed in a solution containing the ingredients of which it is composed. There is no known limit to the ability of a crystal thus to repair itself and resume its growth.

Under a microscope a crystalline solution can be seen forming into crystals, and it is a wonderful sight. First, innumerable dark spots form in the fluid; they stand still and then begin to move. It is soon seen that the movement arranges the spots in straight lines, like beads. The beads speedily coalesce into rods, and the rods arrange themselves into layers until a crystal is created. The process proceeds so rapidly that it is almost impossible to follow closely.

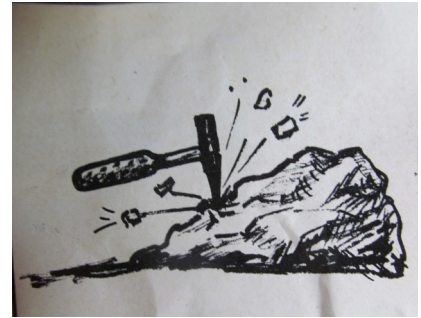
Rock Scoop 2\01 via Dusty Rocks 7/01
via Golden Spike News 8/01

A Rock by any other name....

Leaverite: also known as Dropite, Junkite and Crudite. This type of rock should be discarded immediately. It constitutes 90A% of most rocks . This includes Sourgrape Agate and Mutilated Quartz.

Sack Rock: this is the material that is stuffed into a sack but falls from the top as the bearer struggles back to the car. If taken home, it will be tossed into a corner and forgotten.

Wonder Rock: you always wonder where you found it and more importantly, *why* did you bring it home?



Growing your own.....CRYSTALS!

Astound the kids/grandkids this holiday season: *Epsom salts *Food color

*Beaker/cup/small bowl

What You Do:

- In the beaker, stir 1/2 cup of Epsom salts with 1/2 cup of very hot tap water for at least one minute. This creates a saturated solution, meaning no more salt can dissolve in the water. (Some undissolved crystals will be at the bottom of the glass.)
- Add a couple drops of food coloring if you want your crystals to be colored (of course you do)
- Put the beaker in the refrigerator.

Check on it in just a few hours to see a beaker full of crystals! Pour off the remaining solution to examine them.

Last month we included a couple of articles about tumbling, always something that is reflective of your own experience. Here is some input from David Britten of the Skagit Valley Club (north of Mt Vernon, WA, an area known for its tulip growers). Also input from Herb Wilkinson of the East King County club (Redmond, Kirkland, Bothell areas, east of Seattle). The East KingCo club make a field trip to the Wenatchee Rivers—both dug and screened is by member Kim Lewis:



er this year, for gar-
from the river. This pic
Looks pretty amazing!

Rock Tumbling

by David Britten

In nature, rocks are tumbled by icy glaciers, roaring rivers, and tumultuous ocean shores. This process can take many years. Rock hounds want to speed up that process. We want our prize finds in the rough to be smoothed and polished so we can enjoy them in our lifetimes.

Most rocks can be tumbled to a polish in four weeks or less.

Rocks to be tumbled should be of approximately the same hardness. Agates and jaspers are usually about a hardness of seven on the MOHS scale. Rocks should also be a variety of sizes. A twelve pound tumble barrel should not include rock larger than four or five inches. Pebble type rocks are OK but the smallest will disappear (completely ground to dust) before the end of your process. This “dust”, does however, provide grit to aid in tumbling.

Grit is the material we add to the rocks to wear the rocks down. Grit is usually silicon carbide. #60 - #100 grit is the coarsest grit. The higher the grit number, the finer the grit. (Medium grit contains grit #120 - #220. Fine grit contains grit numbers 300 and higher.)

To polish the stones, we use a very fine powder – usually a metal oxide. Aluminum oxide is a popular and less expensive polish that works well on agates and jaspers. Some stones require a specific polish for best results.

The next ingredient to your tumbler is water. Water assures even contact between grit and rocks during tumbling. Water also provides a cushion to prevent rocks from colliding with enough force to crash and chip one another.

In addition to rock, grit, and water, we add detergent to help keep grit suspended in the slurry. (A slurry is the thick mixture of water, grit, and rock dust.)

Always use powdered laundry detergent. Liquid will foam excessively.

After one week of tumbling with coarse grit, open barrel and check your stones. If rough or sharp edges are not rounded to your satisfaction, add another full dose of coarse grit and tumble for an additional week. If rocks are satisfactory, add your medium grit and another dose of detergent directly to the coarse slurry. Wipe any splashed slurry from around rim of the barrel or you won't get a tight seal. Water will leak and the lid could pop off the barrel during tumbling.

Tumbling by David Britten, cont'd

After two weeks tumbling in medium grit, empty the barrel and wash rock thoroughly outdoors. You do not want any left-over coarser grit to contaminate your polish. Dispose of expended grit, water and rinse water in an appropriate part of your garden or yard. DO NOT FLUSH DOWN THE TOILET or your sink. It will clog your pipes!

Load your washed cleaned rock into your cleaned barrel. You may find the barrel is less than 2/3rds full. Some of the rock disappears in the coarse grit grinding. You may want to use a smaller barrel so that the polish action is maximized. OR you can add polish-ready rock from a previous tumbling to attain proper action. Add water and polish for one more week of tumbling. This should bring your rocks to a nice shine!

WARNING: Check that your tumbler is rotating properly on a frequent basis. If the drum stops rotating for any length of time, the slurry of rock, grit, and water will set up like concrete. It could require a chisel to pry your rocks out of the drum.

Herb Wilkinson's Rock Tumbling Instructions (from East King Co Rock Club)

When Choosing Rocks:

Need rock of varying sizes, pea to walnut size or larger ones.

Rock needs to be of similar hardness so hard rocks don't wear away the softer ones or shatter brittle ones.

Fill barrel 2/3 to 3/4 full with rocks. (Won't get proper action if not enough rocks.)

Fill with water to 1 inch above rocks.

Herb uses two operations to tumble his stones: first grinding, then polishing.

Grinding is done in two steps

First Grinding:

60 -100 Grit - 1 Tablespoon per pound of rock

(6 Tablespoons for 6 # barrel /// 12 Tablespoons for 12 # barrel)

Powdered laundry detergent

(½ teaspoon for 6 # barrel OR 1 teaspoon for 12 # barrel)

Tumble for one week

Second Grinding: Add to existing slurry

120 - 200 Grit - 1 Tablespoon per pound of rock

(6 Tablespoons for 6 # barrel /// 12 Tablespoons for 12 # barrel)

Powdered laundry detergent

(½ teaspoon for 6 # barrel OR 1 teaspoon for 12 # barrel)

Tumble for two weeks

Open barrel and thoroughly wash rocks

Herb Wilkinson, cont'd

Polishing

Add water to 1 inch above rocks.

Polish – Use appropriate polish for your rocks – 1 Tablespoon per pound of rock

Powdered laundry detergent

(½ teaspoon for 6 # barrel OR 1 teaspoon for 12 # barrel)

Tumble for one week

Remove and wash

Is anyone familiar with the ALAA, the American Lands Access Association?

By Linda Stroope

We all need to become aware if this group, if we aren't presently. There are two articles in September's NW Federation Newsletter by ALAA Director Shirley Leeson that are of great importance to all of us. I know Laura has advised us to be concerned and vigilant where our access to public lands is concerned. Shirley urges all of us to become familiar with the ALAA website amlands.org and look at the newsletters and become a 'reporter' of information with which we might become familiar to us locally.

In a nutshell, to paraphrase Shirley's article, each year for any number of reasons our public lands seem to be diminishing. She says that if we look deeply into it, we'll find people and organizations who want to 'save our land for our children'a code phrase for 'take away your rights'. Recent legislation on the Federal level has also allowed some to take away those lands for their own purposes, such as mining.

Shirley considers environmental groups such as the Sierra Club, Defenders of Wildlife and many others to be enemies of rock hounds, in that she states it is their goal to close off these lands to US, the collectors.

The ALAA website includes specific, by state information . In the Oregon section there is a particularly alarming mention of our beaches. I single this out because of our upcoming RAC Brookings area trip at the end of October. Excerpted from the website:



Rule change allows certain department officials and peace officers the authority to order rule violators to leave or to exclude them from the ocean shore area for a period of time; establishes an appeal process for exclusions; requires domestic animal handlers to maintain control and be responsible for animal behavior; establishes specific standards for natural product removal for personal use; **prohibits seasonal collection and prospecting in Western Snowy Plover areas; prohibits altering the natural environment or disturbing natural resources;** prohibits or regulates certain activities to ensure safety, preservation and access for all; clarifies rules for items of value found on the ocean shore; etc.

As in all things, each of us needs to engage in some self-education and not wait, as Shirley Leeson says, [paraphrasing]“until it's too late and we have to buy materials from the back yards of old Rockhounds and from vendors dealing in products purchased overseas”. Environmentalists can see us as someone who digs holes & leaves them, stealing natural resources. Government employees may see us as people taking (stealing) truckloads of material only to put it up for sale on social media (or sell overseas): prime example the rainbow area at Davis Creek. We need to become more educated, police those who intend to restrict us AND self-police, as well. Fill in those holes!

Editor's Corner

It was on my first field trip to Tuledad when I was still able to hike, dig and carry my finds back to the campground that I learned about the sandstone cliffs. This time around I wasn't too good at the hiking, digging & carrying part, but did manage to make it to the lower area of the cliffs. These cliffs have names & dates from pioneers to the area in the early 1800's carved onto them. Sadly I was unable to make the final climb right up to the cliff (like me, some of the writing on the cliff has weathered and tumbled) but I know there were once many signatures up there, now piled below the cliff face to be seen no more. Linda's zoom lens could only capture more current tagging, but we know some original names remain and I will be able to say I nearly got all the way up there.



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

Wow, Rocktober already! Be thinking about what you'd like to contribute to the Christmas potluck. We'll be a bit more organized this year with a sign up sheet at the Oct & Nov meetings. Thanks to Lacey for submitting info on the Smithsonian's newest acquisition.

We always need ideas, as she well knows! Thanks, Lacey! PS mineral puzzle is "vanadinite" Linda Stroope, co-editor email stroopemail@gmail.com

Some upcoming shows:

Clackamette Mineral & Gem Society annual show
Clackamas Co Fairgrounds Canby, OR Oct 27-28
If you can't make the Brookings field trip, consider
Driving up to Canby.

*Remember to collect
tumbler material everyone.*

*Also rocks for the painters AND
Large rocks, preferably with a corner sliced off exposing a
promising interior.....all for the March show's silent auction .
Loves Big Rocks!*

*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, our-
selves. 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 &
new ideas.*