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Dusty Rocks

**June/July
2020**

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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Member @ Large: Ed Haas

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Send your items for sale, photos, adventures, etc to newsletter editors
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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 2020.....Denise Hard
Asst Show Chair.....
Safety Officer.....Laura Limb

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 for singles, \$25 for couples \$30 families
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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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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Visit Us At www.klamathrockclub.org Contact Webmaster Denise Sebastian nicee1214@gmail.com for anything relating to our website
Please e-mail Mike Hard Michael.hard@live.com to join & get on our email list.

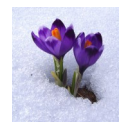
Reference to use of arrowheads within our club is limited to flint Knapping activities during workshops, annual shows and personal creations. No gathering of arrowheads on field trips is authorized or suggested by any club members.

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Hello fellow rocks hounds.

This has not been a very good year for gathering and being a social able group. But we need to think positive and hope that all of this will be a thing of the past. Hope everyone is in good health wise and able to get out and do some rock hunting even if its in your own back yard. You might be surprised about what you forgot was back there. We will have our meeting again on the 10th of August. Also plan on doing a silent auction. Sorry our obsidian was canceled. But I hope that you all did do something with rocks. Hopefully we will see you at the meeting. Thanks, Doris



NEXT Regular Meeting August 10
ZOOM Meeting (on line) and in person limited space, facemasks required, 6 ft distancing
 Updated restrictions ordered by Gov Brown 5/1/20 stated 10 or fewer people at least until 5/15/20. Gradual re-opening depending upon "the numbers"

Topaz Mountain-
 See page 7



Happy Birthday



June

Carnes	Alyssa
Chadderdon	Mark
Davis	Ken
Lehman	Kerhyl
Mora	Ashley
Perryman	Eric
Pope	Colin
Skoq	Ron
Watson	Michael
Wilson	Robert

July

Branson	Ralph
Chadderdon	Joyce
Ellwanger	John
Ford	Carolyn
Ford	Richard
Hawkins	Jamie
Matthews	Connie
Masterson	Sandi
Neal	Sue
Peterson	Michael
Smith	Will
Stembridge	Debbie
Wade	Brian

August

Cummings	Archie
Kent	Cheri Soileau
Nederbrock	Roy
Newnham	Gene
Robinson	Diana
Ruddall	Ray
Stroope	Robert
Vait	Bruce

If we've missed you it's because our master list lacks your info. Help us update it, thanks!
 Please contact Mike Hard

2020 RAC Meetings Treat List

January Marolyn & Ken Davis

February Leah Stump
Cheryl Lee

March Peggy Bieler

April CANCELLED Chris & Sam Chance
541-882-7125

May LIKELY CANCELLED Marshall Curran

June Robert & Linda Stroope

July Ashley Mora

August Kurt & Toni Phillips

September Tom & Cheryl Endicott
Jerry Anderson

October Cindy Sheridan

November Kathi Milem

December Christmas Potluck—no meeting



July Meeting Minutes

Rock and arrowhead Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by President Doris Newnham.

Attendance: 9 in person with social distancing and 2 online Zoom Meeting.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance** recited by all.
2. **New member:** Jeff Oden.
3. **Guest:** Sarah Robison.
4. **Birthdays** are Alyssa Carnes, Bob Wilson.
5. **Program:** Obsidian safety presented by Laura Limb. Safety is a must for all of us as we are out and about. In Obsidian, it is razor sharp so have a first aid kit, a spare tire, gloves, jeans, and appropriate footwear. Always let someone know where you are going and what estimated time you will be back. Sunscreen and mosquito dope are a must as well.
6. **Approval of March minutes** will be pushed to August meeting.
7. **Treasurer** report given by Mike Hard.
8. **Federation report** given by Kathi Milem with nothing new to report and most events are cancelled due to Covid restrictions.
9. **Sunshine report:** Chris Chance, Gene Newnham and Alyssa Carnes have or are experiencing health issues.
10. **Webmaster report** given by Denise Hard is it up to date. 3-year payment for hosting the site is \$500 and is paid in full.
11. **Newsletter:** We want to thank Linda Stroope and Chris Chance for their dedication to putting together our newsletter over the past couple of years. They are stepping down as co-chairs. Laura Limb was asked to pick it up until a permanent replacement can be found. Linda will continue to handle the snail mail until March 2021. Addition to the newsletter is at every club meeting, we will hold a silent auction. Please consider donating rock related stuff and bring your funds to help our club. Current cost to print our newsletter is \$45 /mo. plus postage at \$.55 a stamp. May need to reconsider this as an option in the future.
12. **Member field trips** were shared by Denise and Mike Hard went over to Gold Beach and found agates and jasper. Laura Limb and Denise Hard went out to Juniper Ridge Opal mine and were able with the help of Chuck on the hammer uncover two softball size specimens. Chuck brought to show everyone at the meeting. Doris and Gene Newnham also made a trip out to the opal mine and did well themselves. Thank you, Chuck, for the invite.
13. **Field trips:** July 24-26 at Davis Creek for Obsidian if fire restrictions and Covid mandates allow. Denise Hard will be hosting.
14. **New business:**
 - A. The executive members met and have made a couple of suggestions for the annual review of the bylaws. The membership dues state from August 31 to September 1st. This allows for the accommodation of a current list and funds to be submitted to the Northwest Federal of Mineralogical Society for club annual dues. The bylaws were never updated for last years March to March pilot. Since the show was cancelled, dues were not collected at the show which has been past practice. A motion by Laura Limb and seconded by Kathi Milem was made to return to the timeframe stated in the bylaws.

(July Meeting Minutes, cont)

Voting of membership present was unanimous. Dues will be from August 31 to Sept 1st of the following year.

B. Elections in November: In review of the bylaws the President, VP, Treasurer and recorded should be elected every other year. We currently are electing each position every year which can lead to loss of continuity for the club. Doris Newnham motioned for the President and Recorder to be up for election for 2021. Kathi Milem seconded. Unanimous vote of membership present. Denise Hard will remain in the VP position for one more year. Mike Hard will be in a two-year appointment to Treasurer so no changes need to be made.

16. Other business:

A. Audit needed as Robert Stroope has finished his time as treasurer. Denise Hard will get a group together to conduct the Audit from April thru December 2019. Denise has asked that Doris Newnham, President be present at the audit.

B. Claims paperwork needs filing. Garwin Carlson is our usual mine representative. Laura Limb will contact Garwin and see if he is still able to perform this duty. Discussion on having a mining claims geologist that Chuck Newnham knows be our mine filing contact. His name is Charlie Watson at Advanced Geology out of Chico, CA. His fees are reasonable around \$250 per year. Laura Limb was asked to contact Charlie Watson and inquire about is fees and service and report back to the club next meeting.

C. March 2021 show theme: discussion was made around carrying forward the theme for 2020 since the show was cancelled. Group decided to think on it and bring suggestions to the next meeting. We are a little behind in a theme for 2021 but will still be ok.

D. Denise and Mike Hard donated a computer, monitor and Office 365 license to the club. Our laptop is end of life and a possible replacement may be in the future. Question asked of where the printer and paper are currently located. Laura will check with Linda.

E. Larger venue option to accommodate the club meetings and abide by the Covid social distancing guidelines: Bob Wilson offered to check with the Baptist church in Merrill of which he is a member and see if that is an option. Discussion about being out of Klamath Falls, driving in the winter, etc. Bob will investigate availability and report back next meeting.

F. November Arts and Craft Fair will be cancelled for 2020 due to Covid restrictions.

G. Patti Bennett is moving and has rocks for sale. Contact her at 541-883-8413 if interested.

17. No refreshments.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Birthstones: June, July, August

June Birthstones

If you were born in the month of June, you are lucky enough to have three birthstones to call your own. June is one of only three months (the others are August and December) that has three birthstones, giving you a variety of beautiful birthstone choices.

The June birthstones are pearl, alexandrite and moonstone. With so many attractive options, individuals with June birthdays can have a birthstone that fits their mood or budget, due to the different colors and price points these gems offer.



July Birthstone

Ruby is the July birthstone – and it's one of the most coveted of gems. The name is derived from the Latin word *ruber*, meaning “red” – the color of love and passion. Few things catch the eye like the ruby birthstone. The finest color of the birthstone for July is a deep red with a hint of purple, called “pigeon’s blood” in the trade. A variety of the mineral corundum, ruby gets its color from trace amounts of the element chromium. The more chromium, the stronger the red. Here’s what you need to know about this beautiful July birthstone so you can better choose one for yourself or a loved one who was born in the month of July. Our search for the July birthstone starts in Myanmar (formerly known as Burma), one of the oldest recorded sources of fine rubies .



August Birthstones

Peridot, spinel and sardonyx are the three birthstones for August. The peridot birthstone is known for being formed under extreme conditions, as it can be found in the hardened lava that carried it from deep within Earth’s mantle as well as in meteorites that traveled from outer space. The spinel birthstone was underappreciated until recently, as today’s consumers look for an alternative to ruby, a gem with which red spinel was mistaken for centuries. Sardonyx is the original August birthstone, with a history that dates back more than 4,000 years.

Arizona is the main source of Peridot in the United States. Massive volcanic eruptions many thousands of years ago sent rivers of lava spilling across the desert landscape of what is today the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation, where some Apache families have worked the mines for decades.



COURTESY DR. EDUARD J. GÜBELIN COLLECTION (LEFT SPINEL), WILD & PETSCH LAPIDARIES (PERIDOTS), GIFT OF SUSAN GOLDSTEIN (SARDONYX), ROLAND SCHLUESSEL (RIGHT SPINEL)

Information for this page referenced to GIA’s site at <https://www.gia.edu/birthstones>
Established in 1931, GIA is the world’s foremost authority on diamonds, colored stones, and pearls. A public benefit, nonprofit institute, GIA is the leading source of knowledge, standards, and education in gems and jewelry.



On a trip to Delta, UT for trilobites several years ago, we'd intended to check out Topaz Mountain but either ran out of time or more likely, didn't want to take a rental car on a dirt road, voiding the rental agreement. I'd like to try again some time. ed.

There **is** a public area where one can find some clear topaz, but probably not the more well known amber colored stone. Most of the "Topaz Bowl" is still public, in fact, and the roads through vrs claims are open. As always, do not trespass on private holdings.

The collecting area, "the amphitheater", part of the Thomas Range, is located about 36 miles north of Delta, on a dirt road. From Nephi, travel 33 miles SW on State Hwy 132 to Lynndyl, then South on Hwy 6 for 5 miles. Then west onto Brush Wellman road for 38 miles to the Topaz Mountain sign. Clearly one has to *want* to get there. [Side note: we found roads marked in black on our AAA maps that would be rough, unimproved roads here in OR to be wide, super well maintained gravel roads in Utah.] All sources do say the last couple of miles from the sign are rough. Topaz Mountain Adventures has acquired a lease of approx 40 acres of "dome quarry" and offers individual and family prospector passes, public and private blasting tours. There are lots of good reviews on Trip Advisor, so it sounds as though this is a very legit business and fun. Dry camping is free and plentiful and the entire area is open to ATVs.

Many minerals besides topaz can be found, including garnet, amethyst, hematite, opal and bixbyite. Most of the topaz from the area is either sherry or pink colored and sadly becomes clear after exposure to sunlight. There is plenty of surface pickings for the kids but to get to the good stuff one needs a sledge, chisels, things to poke with (like chopsticks or a small screwdriver) and headlamps are recommended. The matrix is white rhyolite and in this rhyolite you should see 'vugs' (pockets) ranging from a few inches to a few feet, wherein the minerals hide (hence the headlamp recommendation).



The crystals formed within cavities of the Topaz Mountain Rhyolite, a volcanic rock which erupted approximately six to seven million years ago (Tertiary Period) from volcanic vents along faults in the area. Clear Topaz can be seen glittering in the sunlight all over the ground. Washes are a great place to find clear Topaz. But if you're looking to find the more sought after amber colored Topaz you will have to do a little work. You want to search for bushes or any other kind of vegetation growing out of the cracks in the Rhyolite, this is a

sign of weakness in the rock, and is usually a great location to find Topaz. Probe these areas with your screwdriver to find soft spots that may lead you to a pocket containing amber colored Topaz.

A recommended book: "A Field Guide to Topaz Mountain" by John Holfert & Jeremy Fuller.

One visitor posted to just find white rhyolite with clear topaz around it and start working the cracks & holes. When you find a hole, use a screwdriver or wooden skewer to clear out the sand and find your treasure.

There is NO water available within an hour's drive and no outhouses.

Arrowheads

Linda Stroope



The name of our club is the Rock *and Arrowhead* Club but we don't really talk much about arrowheads (or more properly, *projectile points*) except when admiring the handiwork of talented members like Art Dillard, Kurt Phillips and others. The more senior members of the club remember a time when arrowheads could be found throughout the area and kept legally.

Rockseeker.com Don has posted a guide for the rest of us. Thanks, Don, once again for providing us with some useful info and entertaining reading. In North America, over 2,000 different types of Native American arrowheads have been identified—a challenging task due to sheer numbers. He recommends The Official Overtreet Identification and Price Guide to Indian Arrowheads as the best written, book-form resource for answering questions like: what type of arrowhead is this? When was it made and by whom? Is it authentic? What was the maker's culture like? The best on line resource—probably because it offers a “search by state” option—to quickly narrow down a search is projectilepoints.net. These resources will ask you to make observations such as: shape? Stemmed or stemless? Shape/curvature of the stem—or is it straight? What about the notches? Side, corner, at the base? Knowing the shape and location can quickly narrow the 2000+ possibilities to as few as a dozen.

Where can we look for arrowheads, ourselves, today? For a detailed review, consult William Bauer's The Ultimate Guide to Artifact Hunting. But for a quick guide we can rely on Rockseeker Don.

Walking in the woods & getting lucky? Not too likely. Success requires some research: where did the ancient people [in the area you wish to investigate] live? Where did they hunt & travel and winter? What was the landscape like 1000 or 5000 years ago? Water? Dry? Many Indian camps would have been located near a fresh water source but not right on the water—like a nearby bluff or knoll. If you're in the woods, look for a creek or river and start searching there, if that creek or river existed 1000 or more years ago. Places where 2 or more creeks come together are excellent areas because they were magnets for game, therefore great places for hunting camps. Probably don't bother searching sandy bottomed streams, but those with medium to large gravel will reveal arrowheads and bird points readily. Club members are probably the best resource for this information, as well as a friendly visit to a USFS or BLM office. The geologists there have been really informative to us in the past. As far as the physical part of collecting goes, Rockseeker Don swears by a sand dipper, a telescoping aluminum wire scoop basket. Not cheap, (\$45 on Amazon) but really looks useful as a great tool, back saver and avoider for poking into snaky areas. I'm sure some members have created home-made versions from golf ball retrievers.

What were these arrowheads made of? The answer depends partly on what was available in the area in which the Indians lived, but also the areas they traveled & with whom they traded. Our Glass Buttes obsidian has been found as far east as Ohio. In the Northwest, obsidian was the most common material, but also jaspers and basalts. East coast peoples commonly used rhyolite and felsite, where in the southwest, petrified wood and quartzite were commonly used materials.

Editor's Corner

I would like to take this time to thank Linda and Chris for their time as editors. They have provided a wealth of knowledge in the last few years. As of July, I will be your new newsletter editor for the club. I look forward to bringing the club a valuable newsletter with information that you can apply to your rockhounding library and skills.

Laura Limb, Editor

Covid 19 Guidelines

Wear face mask covering nose and mouth.

Social Distancing of 6 feet.

Wash hands frequently with soap and water.

Stay home if possible.

If sick stay home until cleared or temperature free.

If exposed contact primary care provider for instructions.



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