



Lake City Rockhound News

NORTH IDAHO MINERAL CLUB

August 2009

Club Mailing Address—P.O. Box 1643 Hayden, ID 83835

Meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM

At Post Falls Senior Center, in the Dougall Room— 1215 E. 3rd. St. Post Falls, ID

www.amfed.org/nfms **DOWN LOAD YOUR NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER...**

JULY MEETING IN DALTON PARK

The picnic in Dalton was well attended and seemed to be a lot of fun for everyone there. There were more children than usual which was great. The weather was cooperative, and the food was GOOD!!! The rock giveaway seemed to create some good feelings and the silent auction that followed was fun also. Hopefully having our picnic at this park this will become a custom for our club to look forward to each July. Unfortunately no one took roll, but most of us were there at one time or another—and it was very nice to see some of our members who have not been able to attend meetings very often. Thanks to all who brought such great picnic fare. And Bill Johnson showed up fresh from his trip to Wyoming with specimens from the field trips he went on while there. Really interesting material—brought back old memories.

Your editor has been “in a vacuum” since the picnic, so have very little news to report. **It would be wonderful if you, individually or in groups, would contribute an article about your summer adventures, or some aspect of lapidary, geology or something that might be of interest to others in our club— and other clubs.**

AFMS/NFMS Meeting and Show in Billings MT

I will have to depend on Everett for the major report as he represented you at the voting meetings and also at the ALAA meeting, but as I write this I believe he and Erna are still in the Dakotas somewhere. Hopefully they will let us know what they have been doing. And the Roses have been busy with family reunions. I got to attend my family reunion at Rock Creek just east of Clinton on the 31 of July and the 1 of August and late that afternoon drove to Billings. Spent Sunday at the Editors breakfast and acquired awards for four different people—then made a quick survey of the 150 displays, which were wonderful! And there were over 30 competitive displays. Saw a lot of familiar faces and many new ones among the vendors. Have a couple of remarkable examples to show at the August meeting. Met Michael Burton at the Editor's breakfast, which included webmasters. The food was good and so was the company. The drive home was long but uneventful.

I HOPE you will pull up Mike's blog and look at the pictures he has put on of the Billings show. The address is http://teardrop.blogicalthoughts.com/td_afms_nfms_show_2009.html What else can I say? Except thank you Mike!!~

PORTLAND REGIONAL GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

After three not so successful shows at the Portland Expo Center, The Portland Regional Gem and Mineral show returns to the Washington County Fair Complex in Hillsboro, Oregon. Due to the economic problems everyone is facing it was necessary to cut our show costs and move back to a more economical venue.

Portland Regional is composed of five area clubs: Columbia-Willamette Faceters Guild, Mt. Hood rock club, North American Research Group, Oregon Agate and Mineral Society and Tualatin Valley Gem Club. These clubs get together each month to plan ways to improve each year's show.

There will be FREE PARKING, general admission has been reduced to \$5.00 a day. Children 12 and under will be admitted free with an adult. This should make it more affordable for everyone who wishes to attend the show.

Camping is available at the fairgrounds and reservations may be made by contacting the Fair Complex at 503-648-1416 or visit their web site at www.faircomplex.com.

This show has had the reputation of one of the biggest and best shows in the Northwest and we hope to live up to that reputation by having over 130 displays, demonstrators and 35 to 40 dealers with supplies and equipment for sale. We hope to see many of our friends from the Northwest Federation at our "Rockhound Revival" **SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2009**. The hours on Friday and Saturday are 10 to 6 and on Sunday from 10 to 5. The Fair Complex is located on Cornell Rd. across from the Hillsboro Airport (873 NE 34th Ave). For more information go to our web site:

www.portlandregionalgemandmineral.org, or call or e-mail me at 503-648-3989 or dmsnook28@yahoo.com. — Russ Snook, President

This notice about the Portland Regional Show is intended to make you aware that this is a terrific show!! I have been to two of these at this venue and it is absolutely great. And it is only a few miles from the Rice Museum which is a must see. Ask Steve or Bev about it if you have-not heard about it before. One of the best collections of rocks and minerals in our country— BELIEVE IT. Not to be missed. PS-If you are visiting in Portland proper take the train — the Maxx— out to the fairgrounds. And leave the driving to them. (Stop on the way back and visit the zoo!!)

How About Carpooling to Walla Walla?

The **Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society** of Walla Walla would like to extend an invitation to the members of your club to come to our annual Gem and Mineral Show being held the weekend of **September 12-13**. The show hours are 10am to 5 pm both days and is held in the Community Center on the Walla Walla County Fair Grounds complex (9th and Orchard St, just off highway 125 in the south end of Walla Walla.

As in past years there will be several display cases of material prepared by club members as well as numerous vendors who will have an assortment of items for sale. There will be activities for the kids as well as a silent auction with a variety of rock material. The feature exhibit will be an exact replica of a 6 foot long skull of at-rex dinosaur. An amazing thing to view. Also on exhibit will be a full scale replica of a saber tooth tiger skeleton.

We hope to see you there.

Warren Rood

Again, I can vouch for the good show that is put on by the Marcus Whitman club. The juniors cases especially have been outstanding the last two shows I have been to, and there are some vendors that never get this far over east, so there may be new material for you to look at. Silent auction is very good. BB

(And the Palouse is very beautiful this time of the year).

According to an article on page 3 of the NW Newsletter the new **Gem Trails of Oregon and Gem Trails of Washington** by Garret Romaine are completely redone, and excellent. He started from scratch, reexamined all the sites personally—discarding many that have not proven to be good or are no longer accessible. Then added a "whole slew of new sites". These books are on my wish list.

Peridot is the best known gem variety of olivine, a species name for a series of magnesium-iron rich silicate minerals. This bright yellow-green to green gemstone has caught the fancy of humans for thousands of years. Some historians even suspect that at least some of the "emeralds" worn by Cleopatra were actually peridot. Much of its recent popularity can be explained by its currently being recognized as the birthstone for the month of August, people wear the stone because it is supposed to bring the wearer success, peace, and good luck.

The United States was for many years the largest producer of peridot, the value of production in 1993 was estimated to be about \$1.5 million, according to the USBM. The United States is getting major Competition from China and Pakistan for the title of world's largest producer.

The earliest recorded production of peridot was in about 70 A.D. from St. Johns Island in the Red Sea, about 54 kilometers off the coast of Egypt. Most of the earliest known peridot gems came from this location and small amounts of material are still being produced from there today. Later, very large, fine-quality peridot was produced from deposits in Myanmar (formerly Burma). These deposits were well known for their 20- to 40-carat cut stones of superb color and clarity, but since the socialist government came to power, the supply of Burmese peridot has been curtailed to such a point as to no longer be a factor in the industry. One can only guess as to whether the deposits are mined out, or if government policies have resulted in the shortage of material.

Arizona.--Currently, the United States is the basic supplier of peridot to the world gemstone industry. Deposits in Arizona are the major source of U.S. peridot. Faceted Arizona peridot is highly prized locally, but also enjoys widespread popularity for the manufacture of birthstone and other jewelry. The bright green, yellow-green to olive-green peridot is used both as a faceted and tumbled gem. The faceted stones are used in rings, earrings, pendants, bracelets, and as accent stones. The tumbled gems can be set in baroque jewelry, drilled and strung as beads, used in mosaics, and in the manufacture of gem trees.

Peridot Mesa, located on the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation east of Globe in Gila County, is the most productive locality for peridot in the world. A second Arizona location from which peridot is recovered is Buell Park Apache County, Arizona, about 16 kilometers north of Fort Defiance. However, it is estimated that 80% to 95% of the world's production of peridot comes from the San Carlos Reservation.

On the Reservation, peridot can be mined only by individual Native Americans or by individual families of Native Americans from the San Carlos Reservation. In the past, the miners have not marketed the peridot directly to the gemstone industry. They marketed the material in random size lots, from as small as a coffee can full to as much as a 55-gallon barrel full, to local brokers or mineral dealers. These local brokers/dealers may or may not sort and grade the material, but they do tend to market to the industry in uniform size lots. Currently, some of the large volume miners are marketing the material directly to the industry and are also contracting for cutting services and are marketing cut stones.

New Mexico.--Gem-quality peridot can be found in deposits at three different locations in New Mexico. The deposits are in the Buell Park area in McKinley County in the northwestern part of the State and in Kilbourne Hole and Potrillo Mar depression, both near the Mexican border in the southeastern part of the State. The color of the material is brown, greenish-brown, yellowish-green, and the desirable peridot green. Some people believe the material from the Kilbourne Hole area is superior to the material from the famous Arizona location on the San Carlos Reservation. Currently, there is no commercial production of material from any of the deposits in New Mexico, but "rockhounds" and other mineral collectors gather materials from these locations for their own use.

AT THE BILLINGS SHOW

Part of another award winning display by Linn Enger of Hells Canyon club in Lewiston. This got a first in AFMS competition. Amazing work!



TWO EXAMPLES OF WORK BY MASTER CARVER ROBERT SAHLI OF PORT TOWNSEND. THE AQUARIKUM WAS STOCKED WITH SEA LIFE—ALL OF WHICH WAS CARVED EXCEPT FOR THE CORAL AND SPONGES. The frog is of ruby and zoisite and was one of several individual pieces large enough to have a case to itself. Beautiful!!!!

Be sure to look at the web site I mentioned on [page one](#) that Mike Burton put his pictures on from the show.



NEXT MEETING IS AUGUST 20 AT 6:30 pm

Program: (an oldie but goodie) TREES OF STONE 22 min. video

Refreshments provided by Mike and Diane Rose

Super Silent Auction

(if some of you have not helped with refreshments recently **please** volunteer for one of our next three meetings—September 17, October 15, and November 19. Tell Mike to sign you up.)

in October you are going to be treated to a good program by Johnie Pitman—

Sept. still under consideration.

In order not to slight anyone—please note that the **Hellgate club of Missoula is putting on a show on the 26th and 27th of Sept.** I am going over. It can easily be done in a day. I really encourage the club members who are new to this hobby to make the effort to take in some of these shows. See what others have done and make plans for your own accomplishments. Look around and ask questions of the host club people.

Another really good show is the **Hells Canyon show in Lewiston on October 17 and 18.** You will be able to see some more of the glorious intarsia pieces done by Linn Enger and Jerry Blimka, and by Ralph Matthewson, who just started this aspect of lapidary a little while back.

This always a **good** show, and also within a day trip from our area. I'll be at this one too. Want a ride?

One more show I've read about many times but have never been to is the **Marysville show**, which is a two day trip—but I think I'll try it this year. Some of my favorite rockhounds are members of this club—**It is on the 10th and 11th of October.**

Bill Johnson is taking over the newsletter for the month of September as I have obligations elsewhere with people I rarely get to see—friends of my youth and relatives that distance has prevented me from seeing very much of during my whole life. That cannot continue. THANK YOU BILL.

Will there be any further comment on the suggestion that we try to have a library for the club. The Senior Center would charge us \$5.00/mo for storing the books. Maybe no one reads anymore?? We have been gifted recently with the library of a retired rockhound and I have read almost all of the books, sitting over my breakfast coffee.....wishing I had seen these books long ago. I won't bring them to a meeting unless interest is expressed. Maybe we could use them for Silent Auctions or at our show if we have one next year.

OFFICERS FOR 2009

- Mike Rose—President
- Warren Price—Vice Pres.
- Secretary - Bill Johnson
- Treasurer — Susan Rekow
- Federation director—Everett Headrick
- Federation Delegate—open

Committees for 2009

- Hospitality – Bertha McPherson and Bob Bockman
- Field Trips—Dennis and Pam Hicks (with Roses')
- Membership-Susan Rekow
- Show Chairman-2010—-----????
- Newsletter Editor—Bev Bockman
- Program Chairman-Bev Bockman **AND CLUB MEMBERS**

Lake City Rockhound News

Bev Bockman, Editor, bockbb@aol.com
P.O.Box 1326 ,Post Falls. ID 83854

CLUB WEB SITE

www.northidahomineralclub.com

Save ALL your cancelled stamps for cancer re-search-bring to meeting, and give to Everett H.

Affiliated with;

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

THE NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL

2009 Rock and Gem Shows in WA., OR. , ID. & MT

SUPPORT YOUR FELLOW ROCKHOUNDS AND ROCK CLUBS.

Sept. 12-13 Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society-Walla Walla

Sept. 18-20 Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show— Hillsboro

Sept. 18-20 Far West Lapidary and Gem—Coos Bay

Sept. 26-27 Hellgate Mineral Society—Missoula MT.

CONSULT www.amfed.org/nfms FOR SHOW

DETAILS

