

Maplewood Rock and Gem Club

October 16, 2023

General Meeting Notes

7:05 meeting began

Introductions

- Emmet was a member as a young child. As an adult he moved to Yakima, and he's back now. At Show and Tell he will talk about a mystery crystal.
- Brian, President of Marysville Club
- Cynthia
- Antha (daughter) is the rock person and dad is Chris
- Becky- This is her first meeting, and she brought a friend.
- Adam and Rebecca just joined.
- Mike McCormick is a Rock and gem dealer. He was a member before Covid.. He rented the clubhouse this weekend for a private rock sale.
- Nicky Wicks is also a member of Marysville and N. Seattle.

Announcements from members

none

Committees

- Treasurer report \$25,072. Our bank balance has dropped \$3330 this year, due to having the building painted which cost \$6000
- Secretary: We are working to streamline emails and communications.
- Shows:
 - Dec 9-10: Volunteer sheets are in the back of the room.
 - April 13 & 14 is the spring show.
- Community show in November. This is our reach out to the community to share our love and knowledge of rocks. Linda and Marion are co-chairing.
 - We can use more people to display their collections and to demo their skills.
 - Looking for demos of wire wrapping.
 - Flyers are on back table for this show and the December and April shows.
 - Ask for people to put flyers around the city
 - Need volunteers to help setup and cleanup for the show.
 - Volunteer interest sheet passed around during the meeting.
- Shop – needs rags, and Rich asked people to donate some if they can.

- Rentals – remember that the building can be rented for baby showers, private parties, etc.
- Membership: 192
- Publicity, Ways and Means,
- Newsletter: share pics and stories about rockhounding with Nancy Samuels

2024 Board

Michele had several candidates for the 2024 Board positions, and yet there were several openings. Michele reminded us that last month we created a dream board during the meeting to identify why people joined the club and what they want to see here. By being on the Board, a member can work toward making their vision happen. Michele invited people to nominate others for the open positions, and we filled in the last three Members at Large board positions in this list.

We still don't have candidates for the President or Vice President. Michele invited members to consider stepping into one of those roles, and she invited them to contact her if they'd like to find out more. She said the job is demanding at times, but overall quite rewarding.

At the end of the meeting, this was the slate of candidates for the Board.

- Pres:
- VP:
- Bruce 2024 Treasurer
- Nancy S 2024 Secretary
- Mem at Large: Linda
- Mem at Large: Marion
- Mem at Large: Lynz Taylor yes to one year
- Mem at Large: Nathan O'Brien

Prize drawing for attendance:

- Random numbers were chosen to select the winners among the list of adults at this meeting. The two winners were Mary Ann Collins and Nicky Wicks.
- Each child present came up and chose an iridescent shell piece to keep.

Rock of the Month

- Ed Lehman and Nicky Wicks talked about their work in leading field trips as part of the Washington State Mineral Council ("Mineral Council").
- Ed keeps in touch with BLM, DNR, and other natural resource agencies to ensure we retain the ability to access rockhounding sites.
- Ed talked about one of his major successes in keeping access open. An agency wanted to close $\frac{3}{4}$ the Greenwater area logging roads by demolishing roads and by covering others with boulders. At a planning meeting for the agency, Ed set up a table in the hall with maps showing where good rockhounding locations are. They had broken their maps of the area into 7

separate sections, and Ed combined them all and added the rockhounding sites. Ed brought someone else who was good with financial data, and together they laid out a list of exactly what they wanted and why it's for the public good to provide those things. One aspect of their reasoning was how much the communities around Greenwater benefited economically from the rockhounds visiting the area. Ed got everything they asked for.

- Walker Valley – found a large deposit of agate. 100' vein of agate. Got a 30-40lb piece out. It's still a good place to go. Up hill from the agate vein is an area with many geodes filled with amethyst.
- Anything removed from state land, the state must be compensated for.
- The Mineral Council has liability insurance for field trips.
- Our club sells the map booklets printed by the Mineral Council. The proceeds from selling those booklets is the major source of income for the Mineral Council.
- They watch regulations that affect rockhounds.
- Michele will be sure that the information Ed presents will be available for everyone on the website or in the newsletter.
- Field trips are listed on the Mineral Council website:
<https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com/>
- Here are some field trips they do every year:
 - Dalmation stone is very hard to get out of hard rock. Upcoming field trip to Blanchard Hill on W of I-5.
 - April is Racehorse Creek, field trip.
 - Summer: Saddle Mountain for petrified wood and also a diatom mining pit for common opal
 - Rainbow Chert a few miles off the Mountain Loop Highway near the Verlot Ranger Station
 - Little Naches for lily pad jasper (rhyolite lava with tiny thundereggs throughout)
 - Anderson Creek for jade (Mt Vernon area)

Show and Tell for adults

- Armond – He showed lepidolite and pink tourmaline from an estate sale. He showed picture jasper he collected from the Beckler River and over Jacks pass. Skykomish has bright red jasper embedded in dark hard rock.
- Ashley, one of our shop stewards, shared a slab of chrysocolla with malachite on the inside. She donated a similar slab to the auction table.
- Emmet (a guest) polishes rocks with tumblers and also hand polishes. He showed pieces of serpentine from a river. To hand polish he sprinkles silicon carbide on a scrap of denim and adds water. He rubs the agates on it for hours to polish them. The final polish is done with aluminum oxide on 2500 grit sandpaper with water. Emmet also uses a Dremel tool with diamond bits for grinding out divots. Emmet cleaned a specimen covered with small crystals with a strong acid and drusy grew on the small crystal points

afterwards.. He would love to know how the drusy grew. After the meeting a member talked with him about what might have happened to cause the drusy.

- Ashok – picture jasper. Polished some. Found some large specimens on the field trip

Kids' Show and tell

- Maddax – fire agate from Arizona. He likes them because they can be almost any color.
- Dalton – beach rock with holes in it. He'd like to know how the holes formed.
- Rebecca – at a CA beach was looking at rocks and found a heart rock. She looked it up on her computer and it's jasper and granite.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm