



# ***THE BEMS***

# ***TUMBLER***

August  
2007

The monthly newsletter of the **Boeing Employees' Mineralogical Society, Inc.** Seattle, Washington

***Club Picnic:  
August 12, 2007  
Area is Reserved All Day,  
but Eating will begin  
around Noonish***

**Liberty Park Shelter next to  
the Renton Library**

Take Exit 4B to Bronson  
Way on left.

The Club will supply  
Coffee & Pop. Members  
should bring Utensils, Plates,  
Cups and their Favorite  
Potluck Dish.

Picnic takes the place of the  
monthly meeting



***This month remember  
to wish a  
Happy Birthday to  
Carolee Swenson on August 3,  
Frederick A. Geraldson on August 15,  
Paul Stewart on August 27,  
Tamara Carter on August 31,  
and also remember  
to wish a***



***Happy Anniversary to  
George & Karen Boucek on August 6 (41 years),  
Angelina & Thomas Slee on August 9,  
Larry Fritz & Kathleen Angell on August 11,  
Vinnie & Diana Noble on August 24,  
Les & Yoshi Akers on August 26***



This publication is an official bulletin of the Boeing Employees Mineralogical Society Inc. (BEMS) however, news items and editorial comment herein do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the BOEING COMPANY.

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Tips, suggestions, recipes and experiments printed in this newsletter are the experiences and/or opinions of the individuals submitting them. We are not responsible for their authenticity, safety, or reliability. Caution and safety should always be practiced when trying out any new idea.

When on field trips this organization uses CB Channel 7.

*Keith Alan Morgan, Editor*

Postal, or Email, Exchange  
Bulletins are welcome.  
Email preferred.

morgangraphix@yahoo.com

**Officers & Directors 2007**

President Malcolm Wheeler, Sr.  
Vice President John Carter  
Treasurer Richard Russell  
Secretary Keith Alan Morgan  
Director Dick Morgan  
Director Bill Cook  
Past President Mike Brimmage  
Federation Representative Michael Blanton  
Federation Representative Jerry K.F. Chilson  
Mineral Council Bob & Jackie Pattie  
Program John Carter  
Refreshment Esther McKain  
Membership Keith & Dick Morgan  
Health & Welfare Steve Mackey  
Library Charlotte Churchill  
Raffle/Display Keith & Dick Morgan  
Field Trip Bill Cook  
Tumbler Editor Keith Alan Morgan  
Webmaster Keith Alan Morgan  
Shop Operations Leslie Brooks  
Shop Instructors:  
     Casting Joe Poston  
     Faceting Dan Clayton  
     Faceting Cliff Frome  
     Jewelry Joe Poston  
     Lapidary Dick Morgan

Club eMail address is  
**morgangraphics@yahoo.com**

2007 BEMS Dues are \$15 flat rate Individual, Family, or Retired.

Send or deliver dues to:  
Richard Russell

(or pay him at the meeting)

The object of the Society shall be to stimulate interest in the study of the earth sciences, lapidary arts and related subjects.

This Society is affiliated with the *Boeing Company*; the *American Federation of Mineralogical Societies*; the *Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies*; and the *Washington State Mineral Council*.

Every member of the club should be receiving a copy of the Northwest Newsletter. If you are not receiving a copy contact Dick Morgan

To get information to the Tumbler via the Internet send it to **morgangraphics@yahoo.com** Please put Tumbler and subject in the Subject Line. The deadline is the 20th of each month, (except December which varies).

The BEMS external website is **<http://www.bemsonline.com>**

Why did the prospector spray his rock garden with insecticide?  
He thought there were scarabs in his calcite roses.

Why did the prospector try to cook his ore samples?  
The manual said they were friable.

Why did the prospector take a bath with his rock samples?  
Because they were soapstone.                      via Quarry Quips, 9/06; from an e-mail from Richard Jaeger, RMFMS President



August



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			South Sound Show Committee Meeting 11 AM		Faceting Class	Puyallup Club trip to Greenwater
Puyallup Club trip to Greenwater	Lapidary Shop	Lapidary Casting Jewelry			Faceting Class	
Club Picnic	Lapidary Shop	Lapidary Casting Jewelry			Faceting Class	Yelm Show
Yelm Show	Lapidary Shop	Lapidary Casting Jewelry			Faceting Class	East Kingco Club trip to Lake Wenatchee
	Lapidary Shop	Lapidary Casting Jewelry			Faceting Class	Picnic instead of a meeting this month

Lapidary Class Hours:.....Monday.....7:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
 Lapidary Shop Hours:.....Tuesday.....9:00 am to 6:00 pm

More Field Trip info can be found on Page 9  
 More Show info can be found on Page 10

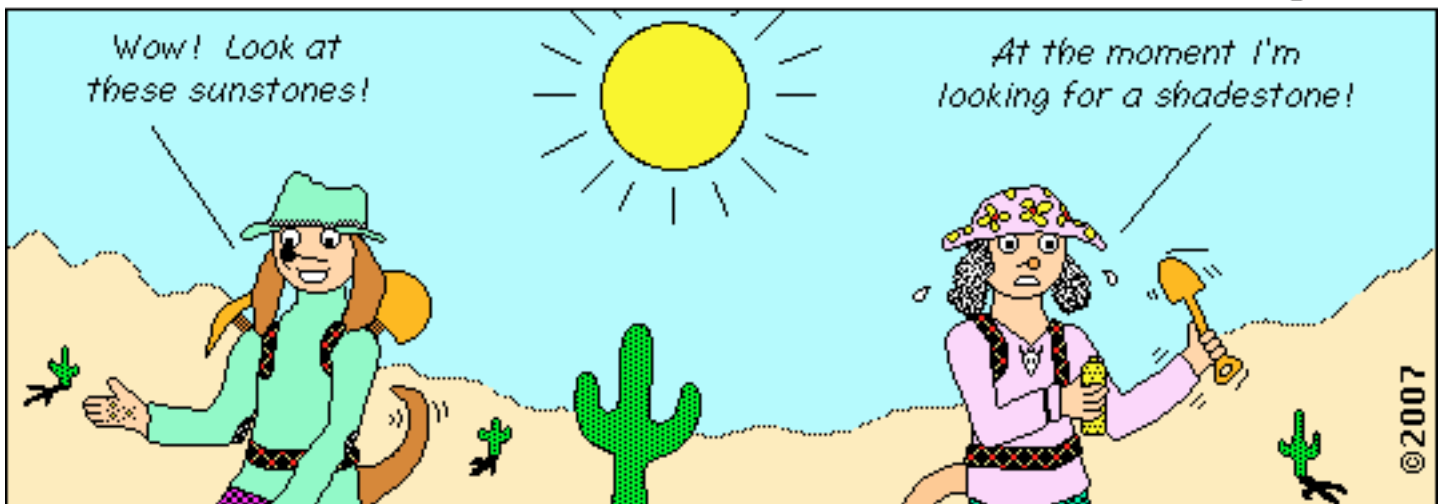
Jewelry Shop Hours:.....Tuesday.....9:00 am to 6:30 pm  
 Jewelry Casting Hours:.....Tuesday.....9:00 am to 6:30 pm (Casting Information All Day)

Faceting Class Hours:.....Friday.....4:30 pm to 8:00 pm

BEMS Board Meeting:.....Tuesday (9 days prior to second thursday).....9:30 am to 10:00 am  
 BEMS Picnic:.....Sunday, August 12 (takes the place our of meeting).....Reserved for all day, but eating will probably be around Noonish

**Mr. and Mrs. Rockhound**

by **KAM**



The Tumbler has received One-Time Rights to publish this cartoon

**BEMS Board Meeting Minutes July 3, 2007**



by Keith Alan Morgan, 2007 Secretary

Members attending

*President Malcolm Wheeler*

*Treasurer Rich Russell*

*Secretary Keith Morgan*

*Mineral Council Bob Pattie*

*Shop Operations Les Brooks*

*Director Dick Morgan*

*Guests Karin Wheeler, Pat Morgan, Jennifer Russell*

Meeting began at 9:41 am.

**Program:** Rich will try to get a flint knapper for an upcoming meeting.

**Mineral Council:** There has been no new Mineral Council meeting since our club's last meeting.

**Raffle:** The amount for the raffle to purchase special material was set. The special material for a raffle will be mentioned in the Tumbler prior to the meeting & the name of the winner will be named in the following Tumbler.

Karin & Malcolm Wheeler will donate some faceting rough to the raffle.

**South Sound Show:** Going good.

**Shop:** Bill Cook had to clean the saws Monday night. When finished using the saws, remember to use one of the small brushes to clean off the rails to get the crud out of them!

Look into getting new valves & guards for the rock grinders.

Malcolm will pick up some power strips for the shops. We need 28 of them.

Someone is using rouge on the leather buff. That is not right you need to use cerium oxide instead.

For the new year people will need to be recertified to use the equipment. A suggestion was made that colored dots be put on badges to show one has a certification to use any particular pieces of equipment. Motion/seconded/passed that we look into creating a visual identification for authorization to use equipment.

Special thanks to Jerry Chilson for inviting club members to dig for free at his sunstone claim, and to Bill Cook for cleaning the saw.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

**Using Shop Equipment** by Dick Morgan

The equipment we use to cut & shape rock can also cause serious injury to a user. Safety goggles should be worn around equipment to keep out flying and sprays of liquid (water or oil).

In grinding stones the easiest way is to use a light pressure and move the stone in a circular motion against the wheel. Remember that moving the stone rapidly against the wheel allows more surface to be exposed and cut without a flat spot.

**Care With Using The Saws In The Shop** by Dick Morgan

The saws in the shop are very useful to the members and these are some guidelines that should be observed to maintain the maximum life of the saw blades and the gear works.

1. Check the oil level. It should be  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  of an inch on the bottom of the blade. Add oil if it is low.

2. Be sure that the blade is picking up oil and not throwing a mix of oil and mud. Mud and/or rock chips can cause jamming of the blade or jam into the gears, causing them to stop or jump. If it slings mud then it is time to clean the saw.

3. The size of the rock should have a height of no more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  the diameter of the blade minus one inch ( $12" - 1" = 11" \times \frac{1}{4} = 2 \frac{3}{4}"$  in a 12 inch saw). This seems to be a small rock to put in the saw, but this keeps down the amount of heat which can cause higher blade wear and as the feed is standard it saves on the amount of pressure against the blade and on the bearings. Another effect of this is to increase wear on the belts that drive the blade.

This is a guideline and does not take into consideration the hardness of the material. Obsidian and some petrified wood can be larger and not create a hardship on the equipment, but stones like Brazil agate, Montana agate, jade or psilomelane should be no larger.

As the 10 inch saw has a smaller and narrower blade it should be used for the smaller and more valuable pieces of rock. The height of the material being cut should not be over two inches, as that will result in overheating of the blade, and less than  $4 \frac{1}{2}$  inches in length of saw feed, for if it is over  $4 \frac{1}{2}$  inches it may hit the hub nut of the saw and damage it. Also make sure the front of the lid is pushed down into the lip of the front of the saw to keep the oil from splashing out.

When finished using the saws, remember to use one of the small brushes to clean off the rails to get the crud out of them!

By adhering to these rules will allow the saw a longer life before repairs are needed.

**Silver Anniversary** by KAM

25 years ago in the August 1982 Tumbler I had my first rockhounding cartoon published. Since then I've had 341 cartoons published in the Tumbler. Thanks to Walt & Betty Swift, who were the Tumbler editors then.

**BEMS General Meeting Minutes July 12, 2007**

by Keith Alan Morgan, 2007 Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm. Meeting presided by President Malcolm Wheeler, Sr.

Forty-seven members attended.

Minutes approved as published in the last Tumbler.

**Tumbler Editor's Report:** Editor had nothing to report, although it was pointed out he had accidentally listed a Wednesday faceting on the calendar.

**Webmaster's Report:** The Links page needs links. Will be adding a Community page listing how members helping out in community, need pictures.

**Membership:** A list of the club members was on the raffle table, members were invited to check it over to see if there was any mistakes on their information.

**Treasurer's Report:** We have money. Bills are being paid & the shop is getting used.

**Shops:** Friday night faceting is doing well. There are no openings at this time

We are looking for an individual who can teach faceting on Wednesdays.

Monday night classes are doing well. Some students need to be taught to clean the equipment.

The club has purchased some grit for the shop.

**Field Trip:** Will try to get a trip to the Rice Museum set up next month.

**Badges:** Motion/seconded/passed to get the multi-colored badges.

**Health & Welfare:** Joe Poston is under a doctor's care, but doing pretty well.

Commemoration for the life of Walt Swift will be July 21st.

Vera Gelbach will be going into surgery. It will be an overnight stay.

The Mackeys are now grandparents.

**Federation Report:** Mike is getting ready for the NFMS show next month.

Jerry K.F. Chilson was approved as an alternate representative to the NFMS.

**Washington State Mineral Council:** There has been no new meeting of the Mineral Council since our last meeting, however they are still working on the Saddle Mountain situation.

**South Sound Show:** Planning to propose a special juniors door prizes.

**Picnic:** The picnic is next month. It will be the second Sunday in August. It will be a pot luck, the club will provide coffee, pop, & 2 bee traps.

**Family Day:** Will need volunteers to help man the BEMS booth Sunday July 29. Will also need tumbled rock to give away.

**New Business:** The Webmaster proposed creating a Sales page on the website to advertise when members are selling rocks & lapidary equipment. It was approved.

**Program:** A video on amethyst.

**Raffle:** The special material was a specimen of hourglass selenite crystals & the winner was Crystal Waters. The special material for the September raffle will be another specimen of hourglass selenite crystals.

**Displays:**

*John Carter* - Unknown cephalopod fossil; clam shell & calcite from Payson, Arizona; ammonite from Forsheim, Germany; smokey quartz from Tibet; 2 opals from Virgin Valley, Nevada; quartz from Silver City, Idaho; petrified root on unknown rock.

*Malcolm Wheeler, Sr.* - Sunstones.

*Steve Mackey* - Tumbled rocks, fossils & calcite from Arizona.

*Mike Brimmage* - Opal from the Rainbow Opal Mine, Virgin Valley, Nevada.

*Dick Morgan* - Selenite crystals for tonight's & future raffles.

*Mike Blanton* - Agate from Apache Creek, New Mexico.

*Les Brooks* - Brazilian agate clock with dendrites.

*Eric Chilson* - Agate from Redtop.

*Ed Laville* - Smack'Em Rocks!

*Roger Pullen* - Seam agate from Greenwater.

**Webmaster Spinings**

There is now a page on the club website (<http://www.bemsonline.com>) where members who are selling rocks, minerals, lapidary equipment, & other hobby related items can list them. Sales would not happen through the website, but contact information of who is selling would be posted. Such as we now do in the Tumbler. Pictures of the items could also be posted so prospective buyers can see what it looks like. Digital pictures & pertinent information can be sent to Keith Morgan at [greenrockdraggin@yahoo.com](mailto:greenrockdraggin@yahoo.com)

Why did the prospector make his mother carry his ore samples?

He thought it was the mother lode.

via Quarry Quips, 9/06; from an e-mail from Richard Jaeger, RMFMS President

## From Atop The Rock Pile



By Malcolm Wheeler, Jr., 2007 BEMS President

It's the journey we take that is more fun than the prize we get... I still like prizes once in a while.... I guess that's just the little kid left in me.

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## Young Richard's Almanac by Dick Morgan

A good news/bad news thought about aging. Lots of Golden Anniversaries, but also a lot of wakes.

It's good to live a long time, but it's terrible to grow old.

Why does everyone like picnics? Because other people bring their best recipes to share!

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## Club Elections

It's that time of year when we start looking for people to run for office to keep the club going another year. Do you want to make a difference? Do you have what it takes? Do you have a pulse? We need a minimum of one person to run for each of the following offices.

*President* - Runs meetings. Deals with recreation for the club's needs. One of the signees for checks. Must be a current Boeing employee.

*Vice-President* - Replaces president when the president can't make a meeting. Is in charge of presentations for meetings.

*Treasurer* - Handles the club's money and makes the yearly budget. One of the signees for checks. Must be current Boeing employee.

*Secretary* - Takes notes at the Board & General meetings and delivers the minutes to the editor for publication in the newsletter. Is responsible for correspondence as needed.

*Director* - A 2-year term. Person should be familiar with the club's activities and usually volunteers on committees such as shop rearrangement and inventory.

*Northwest Federation Mineral Societies Representative* - Attends NFMS meetings and reports back to the club. Is the voice of the club to the NFMS.

*Washington State Mineral Council Representative* - Attends the WSMC meetings and reports back to the club. Is the voice of the club at the WSMC.

If you wish to know more about the positions you can talk to the current holders of these offices. Contact information can be found on Page 2.

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## Ready For Leadership by Nettie Meissner

You are ready for that leadership if you:

1. Can discipline your emotions; do not feel you must have an opinion on every project or subject.
2. Can be sincerely interested in the progress of others, can relax and enjoy participating.
3. Have the courage and strength to influence others with simple logic and common-sense.
4. Constantly work to improve your mind - to stretch your horizons, can be fair and objective in decisions.
5. Can sublimate self for good of the cause, avoiding close door intrigues and icy superior.
6. Organize your life to provide time for preparation and observation.
7. Realize that your personal attitudes, priorities, and decorum are role models to others.
8. Accept fully the responsibilities of the position you assume.
9. Are self-confident, physically fit, and mentally alert.
10. Can remember that most successful people come with simple credentials - love of people and a willingness to help.

via Breccia, 11/06; via Rock Chips, 3/06; edited from Toastmistress Magazine Article (1976)

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## Nifty Rock Hound Bumper Sticker Slogans by Bob Livingston

Love a Geologist - feel your earthquake!

Love A Faceter - They're a cut above the rest!

Love a Mineralogist - but don't take them for granite!

Love A Beader - but they'll string you along!

Love a Paleontologist - but be aware. They collect old dead things.

I collect rocks too - diamonds, rubies, topaz!

via Quarry Quips, 1/07; from SCFMS Newsletter, 7-8/06

On May 11, Bob Pattie & Malcolm Wheeler went down to Cottage Grove, Oregon & here is the report from Bob Pattie.

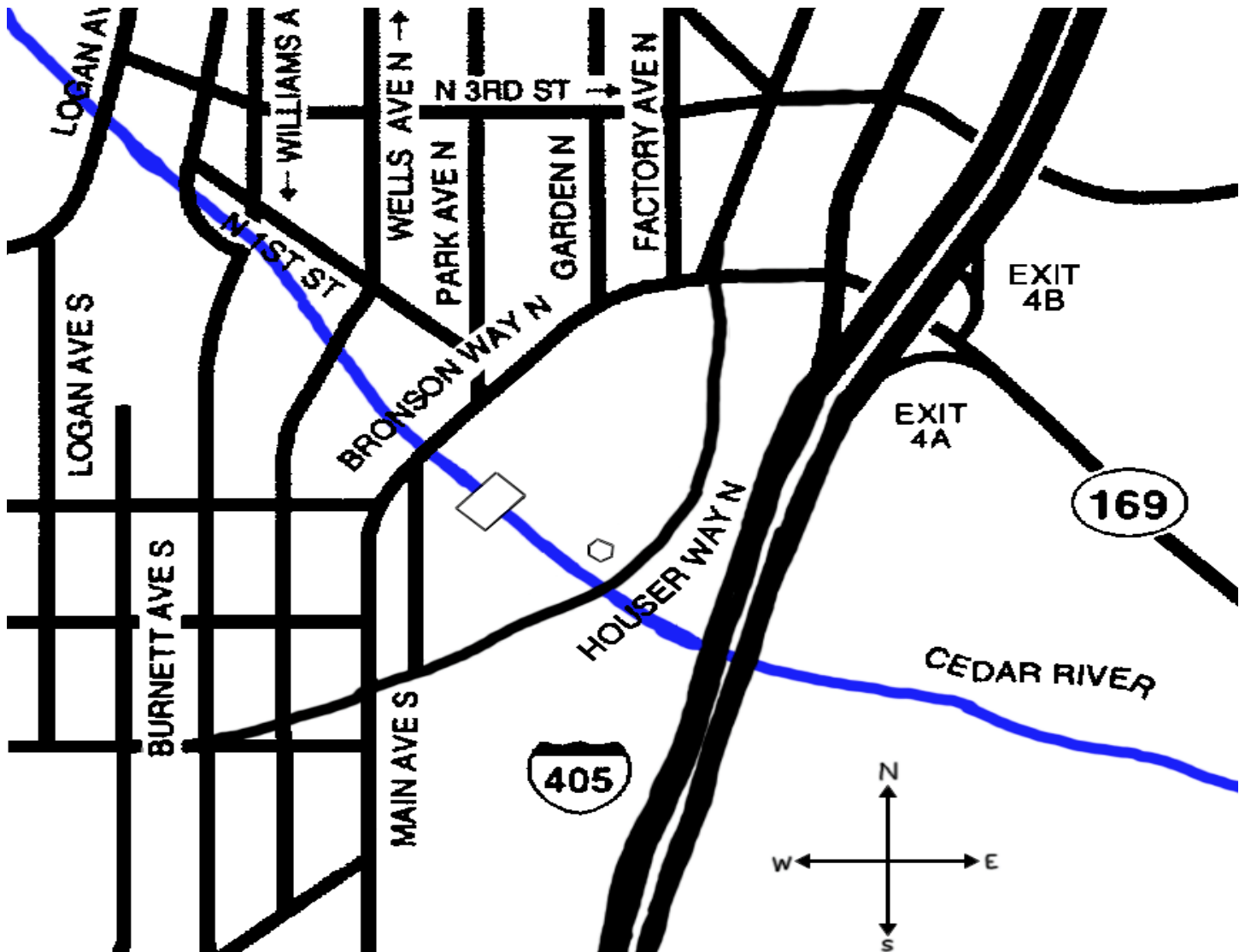
The presentations went very well, we had about 100 fifth graders in three classes. They asked a lot of questions. We passed around material so they could get a feel for some of the specimens we had brought to the classroom. Malcolm let them each pick a; sunstone, petrified wood piece and a tumbled stone to take home with them. Bob talked about the geology of Oregon and the forming of the current shape of the state.



# CLUB PICNIC, SUNDAY AUGUST 12, 2007

The August Picnic takes the place of the August meeting and is being held at the Liberty Park Shelter near the Renton Library.

Exit 4B to Bronson Way on left, tennis courts and parking.



Remember to bring plates, cups and silverware and a pot luck item as the club will provide coffee, pop, and juice.

Mark your serving utensils so they can be returned to you.

Also bring chairs & tables as there is usually more people & food than the park picnic tables can accomodate.

There will be an ugly rock contest.

If you want to trade some rocks, bring 'em down and maybe someone will want to trade with you.

Bring any unidentified rocks you have and maybe some of the other club members can put a name to them...even if that name is Ralph.

Why did the prospector tie skis to the rocking chair?

So he could rockslide down the mountain.

### Field Trips

The club or clubs sponsoring the field trips are shown in italics. When known I have listed a phone number and contact person for each sponsoring club below the listed trips. If you are not a member of the sponsoring club, you should phone and ask permission to go on their field trip.

Some trips have fees to non club members, so they can be a day member, and be covered under club insurance. The usual fee is \$.50 a day.

Information from the Washington State Mineral Council webpage (<http://www.mineralcouncil.org>).

**August 4 & 5** *Puyallup Club - Greenwater* - Meet at 9:00 am at old FR 70 - FR 72 Junction  
Tony Johnson - [Info@PuyallupGemClub.org](mailto:Info@PuyallupGemClub.org)

**August 25** *East Kingco Rock Club - Lake Wenatchee - Garnets & Talc* - Meet at 9:00 am at the Ranger Station - Bring a 1/4" screen box, saw light hardrock tools  
Norma & Kevin (206) 612-3113 or [coyotekevin@hotmail.com](mailto:coyotekevin@hotmail.com)

### A Little Pottery Cat ...

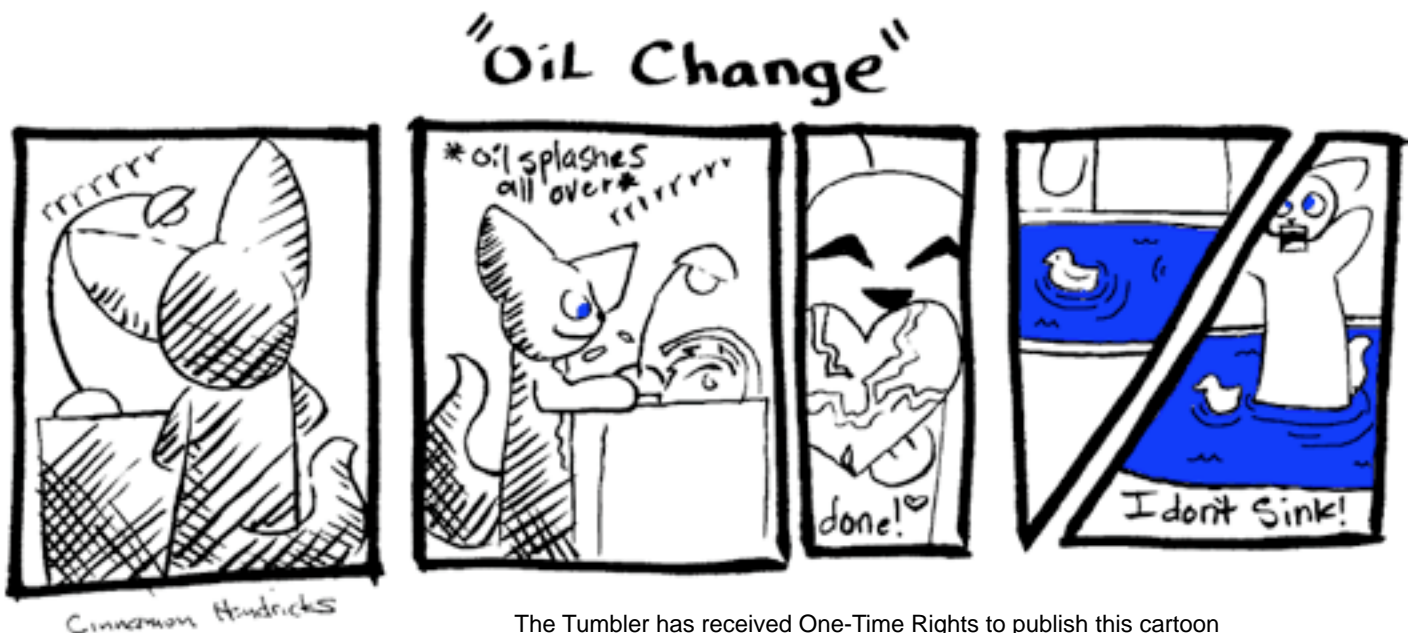
An interesting article titled "The Glazed Cat" was reprinted from The Loupe of the Gemological Institute of America. The story begins with the description of a pagan goddess from Korea dating back to 167 AD. The statue's eyes were two matched rubies. These "eyes" disappeared from Korea in the 10th century and reappeared in the possession of Suleiman the Magnificent, sultan of the Ottoman Empire in the 1500s. He gave them to a British woman to win her over as his wife, but once she entered the harem, she was murdered and the rubies disappeared again.

They were next known at the court of Louis XV and were worn by the beautiful Madame Pompadour. She later sold the jewels to a Russian nobleman to help France's sad financial state. They were taken to Russia but nothing is known about them while they were there.

The rubies' next appearance was in the possession of the notorious German jewel thief Klaus Gudden. German police trapped and killed Gudden, but no trace of the rubies was found.

A search was undertaken three years later by English collector Michael Graves who diligently covered the area in Germany where Gudden lived. He showed Gudden's picture to the owner of a small ceramics factory and the owner recognized him as the person who bought a small glazed cat, but never picked it up. The owner remembered that Klaus had examined the cat while it was still wet and marked "it with a small "x" on its underside. Graves concluded that Gudden hid the rubies inside the cat while examining it. When Gudden never claimed it, the factory owner sent the cat, along with hundreds of others just like it, to America. It was described as yellow in color, about 8 inches high, and was in a lying position with its tail wrapped around its forepaws. It is typical of many such items seen in American households in the early 1900's. Somewhere in the U.S. there may be a little pottery cat worth a King's ransom! If you have such an heirloom, it would be wise to examine it carefully.

via West Seattle Petroglyphs, 5/07; via The Glacial Drifter, 3/04; via Golden Spike News, 5/02; via Hy Grader, 4/02; from a 1950 Lapidary Journal



The Tumbler has received One-Time Rights to publish this cartoon



# Shows

**August 3 - 5:** Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10 am - 5 pm

**Butte Mineral and Gem Club & the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies**

*67th Annual Northwest Federation Show "Richest Hill on Earth"*

Civic Center

1340 Harrison Ave. (exit 127 North)

Butte, Montana

**August 4 & 5:** Saturday 10 am - 6 pm; Sunday 10 am - 5 pm

**Farwest Lapidary Rock & Gem Society, South Coast Rock & Gem Fest**

North Bend Community Center

2222 Broadway.

North Bend, Oregon

**August 18 & 19:** Saturday 10 am - 6 pm; Sunday 10 am - 5 pm

**Nisqually Valley Rockhound Society, "Biggest Little Gem Show in the Northwest"**

Yelm Middle School

Highway 510

Yelm, WA



## Internet Addresses

Fossil Facts & Finds

<http://www.fossils-facts-and-finds.com/>

Fluorescent Minerals

<http://www.galleries.com/minerals/fluoresc.htm>

*Want to cook on a field trip? The following websites deal with camp & outdoor cooking!*

Love The Outdoors - Outdoor Cooking

[http://www.lovetheoutdoors.com/camping/Outdoor\\_Cooking.htm](http://www.lovetheoutdoors.com/camping/Outdoor_Cooking.htm)

Campfire Cooking

[http://www.eartheasy.com/play\\_campfire\\_cooking.htm](http://www.eartheasy.com/play_campfire_cooking.htm)

Campground Cooking

[http://camping.about.com/od/campingrecipes/Campground\\_Cooking.htm](http://camping.about.com/od/campingrecipes/Campground_Cooking.htm)

MacScouter Cooking Recipes

<http://www.macscouter.com/Cooking/>

Free Camping Recipes

<http://www.free-camping-recipes.com/>

NetWoods Virtual Campsite

<http://www.netwoods.com/d-cooking.html>

Outdoor Cook

<http://www.outdoorcook.com/>

