



# *the BEMS Tumbler*

February  
2010

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

***Next Meeting:  
February 11, 2010  
7:30 p.m.***

**Kent Senior Center  
600 E Smith St  
Kent WA**

Access on  
Kennebeck Street

The Program will be  
part 2 of the video we  
watched in January



*This month remember  
to wish a*

*Happy Birthday to*

*Donita Voss on February 5,  
Ronald Green on February 7,  
Esther McKain on February 9,  
Delbert Oxborrow on February 11,  
Dave Van Dvine on February 13,  
George Boucek on February 16,  
Peter Williams on February 18,  
Ronald Houser on February 19,  
Carolyn Speer on February 22,  
Marcia Wollam on February 23,  
James Speer on February 23,  
Mike Brimmage on February 24,  
Julianne DeLeo on February 25,  
Sharon Berosik on February 28,  
Leonard Olsen on February 28,*

*and also remember  
to wish a*

*Happy Anniversary to*

*Wendy Woldenberg & Bob Anderton on February 5,  
Ronald & Shirley Houser on February 11 (54 years),  
William & Renee Farrow on February 20 (31 years)*



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 2010

*President* Bill Cook  
*Vice President* Cliff Frome  
*Treasurer* Richard Russell  
*Secretary* Pete Williams  
*Director* Dick Morgan  
*Director* Cheryl Edgar  
*Past President* Bob Pattie  
*Federation Representative* Michael Blanton  
*Federation Representative* Jerry K.F. Chilson  
*Mineral Council* Brian Waters  
*Mineral Council* Bob Pattie  
*Refreshment* Esther McKain  
*Membership* Keith & Dick Morgan  
*Health & Welfare* Carolyn Sealfon  
*Library* Stephanie Jurado-Smith  
*Video Library* Sandy Chilson  
*Raffle/Display* Keith & Dick Morgan  
*Field Trip* Eric Chilson  
*Field Trip* Bill Cook  
*Tumbler Editor* Keith Alan Morgan  
*Webmaster* Keith Alan Morgan  
*Shop Operations* Cheryl Edgar  
*Shop Instructors:*  
    *Faceting* Cliff Frome  
    *Jewelry* Carolyn Sealfon  
    *Lapidary* Dick Morgan

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

2010 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 Mike Blanton

To get information to the Tumbler via the Internet send it to **morgangraphix@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>**

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## Need a Compass?

If the sun is shining and you have a watch with an hour hand, you have a compass. Set the watch face up and arrange a slender object, a match or a flower stem, upright at the rim of the watch in such a way that it's shadow lays atop the hour hand. No matter what time it is, halfway back from the hour hand to the number 12 is south.

via GCLFS Newsletter, 1/10; via Pick & Pack, 12/09; via The Rockcollector, 12/09; via Shawnee Slate, 9/09; from Petrograph, 4/04



February



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5 Faceting Class	6
7	8 Board Meeting 	9	10	11 General Meeting 	12 Faceting Class	13 Whidby Island Show
14 Whidby Island Show	15	16	17	18	19 Faceting Class	20 Cherry Creek Trip
21	22	23	24	25	26 Faceting Class	27 Everett Show
28 Everett Show						

Lapidary Class Hours:.....Closed until further notice  
 Lapidary Shop Hours:.....Closed until further notice

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

Jewelry Shop Hours:.....Closed until further notice  
 Jewelry Casting Hours:.....Closed until further notice  
 Jewelry Class Hours:.....Closed until further notice

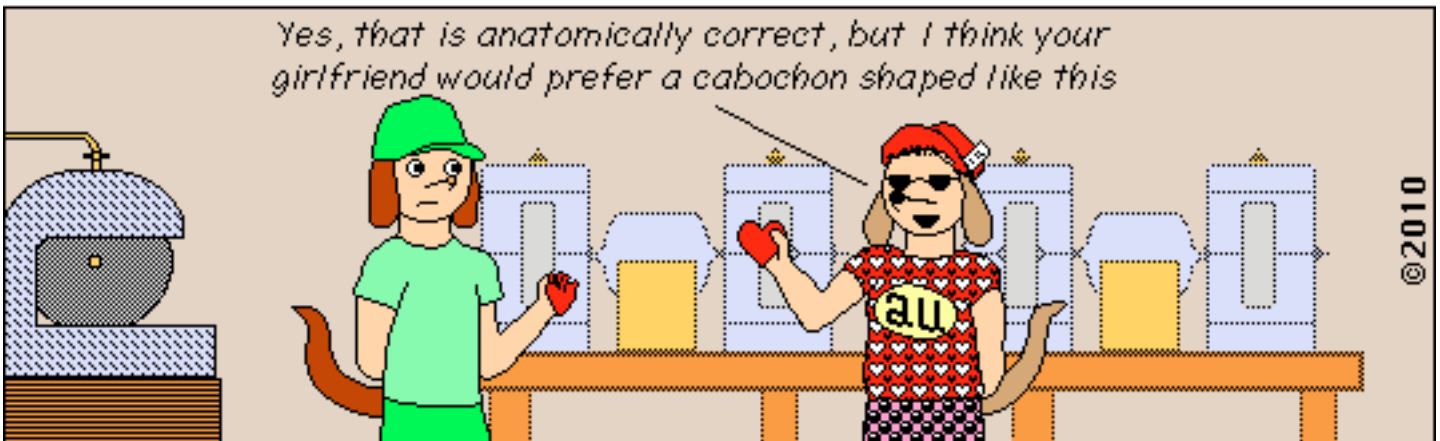
Faceting Class Hours:.....Friday.....12:30 pm to 8:30 pm

South Sound Show Committee Meeting...1st Tuesday.....11 am to 12 pm

BEMS Board Meeting:.....Monday before the General Meeting.....7:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
 BEMS General Meeting:.....2nd Thursday.....7:30 pm to 10:00 pm

**Son of Mr. and Mrs. Rockhound**

by **KAM**



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

**BEMS Board Meeting Minutes January 11, 2010**



by Pete Williams, 2010 Secretary

- Members Attending
- President Bill Cook*                      *Editor Keith Morgan*
- Vice President Cliff Frome*              *Shop Dick Morgan*
- Treasurer Rich Russell*                  *Federation Mike Blanton*
- Secretary Pete Williams*                  *Library Stephanie Jurado-Smith*
- Shop Operations Cheryl Edgar*          *Mineral Council Brian Waters*
- Guests Jacquie Pattie, Pat Morgan*

Meeting called to order at 7:09

The January meeting will be at the Kent Senior Center. We will be able to rent this facility on a month to month basis while searching for a more permanent meeting location. There has not been much activity on finding a place for a workshop. There were a couple of possibilities that have not worked out.

The club will need to determine a budget for how much we could afford if we had to rent space for a shop. This will include how much income we have from fees and dues vs. the needs of the club. There is also the potential of letting other clubs use the equipment to help with the cost of the rental.

The next Board meeting will be held on February 8 at the Kona Kai restaurant at 124 4th Ave. S. in Kent. A committee of Dick, Brian, Cliff and Pete was formed to look at updating the club's constitution and by-laws. Bob is working on a list of club members and validating that it meets the Boeing Recreation guidelines. We will not be able to meet at a Boeing facility until the list has been validated. The Christmas party at the Black Diamond Eagles club ended up costing our club \$200 instead of the original price of \$350 due to donations of material club members made to the Eagles.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

The February 8 Board Meeting will be 7 pm at  
 Kona Kai  
 124 4th Ave S  
 Kent, WA

Thank you to those members who made donations to the Eagles to cut down the cost of renting the hall.

- Bob Bird - Moss agate clock & Brazilian agate trivet
- Rich Russell - Obsidian spear head
- Chuck Bloch - 1.9 carat Amethyst, estimated value \$40
- Leonard Bahr - 8.1 carat synthetic blue quartz
- Bob Pattie - Rhodonite belt buckle & tiger-eye pendant
- Mike Blanton - Audio monitor

**Joe Poston** by Dick Morgan

It is a very sad task to report the passing of a long time member of BEMS, Joe Poston. The club was a better place because of his volunteering to help the members learn distinctive metal work in the shop.

He was a fixture in the jewelry shop and always ready to help work patterns in wax and then into the metal finished product. His work was admired by all club members and it appeared to have enough different designs to please any taste.

Joe was a person with a varied life, which he was willing to talk about during his many hours at the shop as an instructor of jewelry and casting. He had an active mind in recognizing everyday items that could be turned into jewelry or small statues. Joe's works were well done and many were unique in designs as though the metal and stone were meant to go together in many different shapes.

He will be missed as much for the talks and banter with club members as for his innovative instruction on metal work.

**Joe** by Keith Morgan

My favorite memory of Joe was when my dad gave him an odd little rock and said, "I know how you like weird stuff." and I said, "So that's why he likes you, dad." Joe cracked up and said, "Yeah! That's why I like you!"

To start a fire in rain or snow, keep a tube of rubber cement handy. It is highly flammable and will light instantly, even in a down pour, and it can be carried easily.

**BEMS General Meeting Minutes January 14, 2010**



by Pete Williams, 2010 Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:33

1 guest was in attendance.

Minutes approved as written.

**Tumbler Editor and Webmaster's Report:** There were no issues with the Tumbler or the web page.

**Treasurer's Report:** There is no income coming in from the shops as they are not in operation. However, the shops basically broke even when you consider the cost of maintaining the equipment.

**Shop Reports:** Only the faceting classes are currently still going. There are a couple of open slots available for members. See Cliff if you are interested.

**Field Trip Report:** Bill and Brian will be going on a trip to Central Oregon the week before the Madras field trip. The Mineral Council is close to developing a list for field trips for 2010. Check their web site to see when it is posted.

**Federation Report:** The mid-year meeting will be on 4/17 in Kenniwick. This is the same weekend as the POWWOW club trip to Mattawa.

**Mineral Council:** The next meeting is on Tuesday the 19th. The first field trip is to Cedar Ponds on the 30th.

**Health & Welfare:** Joe Poston passed away and the funeral was held at Tahoma cemetery. If you are aware of any other members that are ill, please contact Carolyn.

**South Sound Show:** The committee met last week and approved the show this year on November 13-15 in Puyallup. Last year the show made \$5000 split between 2 clubs.

**Old Business:** We will be making a budget to help determine how much money the club has available to potentially rent a facility for a shop. All equipment has now been moved out of Boeing storage into a temporary facility where we are not currently being charged rent. Any club member can look for space for a potential club shop. Notify any board member of any possibilities.

**New Business:** None

**Program:** A video on Idaho an Aerial Tapestry was shown.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24.

**Displays:**

*Mike Blanton* - The book "Gem & Crystal Treasure" by Peter Bancroft

*Ed Laville* - Smack'em rocks

**Wagonmasters Meeting** by Brian Waters

On 01/08/10 I attended the Wagonmasters meeting where field trips were set up for the year. The list should be available on the WSMC website soon.

There will be a field trip to Cherry Creek to collect jasper on 02/20. This will be collecting in a stream so wear something to wade in the water. The field trip will meet at the Safeway in Duvall at 9:00 am.

Eric Chilson also volunteered to lead two field trips this year for both the Puyallup and Boeing clubs. The first one will be to Greenwater on 8/21 and 8/22 for agate and jasper and the second will be to Little Naches on 9/18 to collect thundereggs.

Also, there is going to be a week long trip to the Ochoco National Forest in Oregon to collect thundereggs, agate and jasper as well as petrified wood. This field trip will be from 6/19 to 6/27, the week before the Madras Pow Wow which is from 6/30 to 7/4.

An exact itinerary has not been set up yet, but I am thinking of making this the 3rd annual Rock Trippin' with (President) Bill this year and would like to invite as many of you that can make it as possible. The field trip will be lead by Stu Ernst of the Marysville club and he is an old hand at collecting in this area so it should be an excellent trip. Also, if enough people are interested we could look into making some side trips such as to the Polka Dot agate mine.

It's a new year and time for new adventures. Hope to see you all out there.

Do you know the difference between a fossil limb section and a limb cast? Some call a specimen by either name, not realizing there is a difference.

A limb cast occurs when a buried limb has decayed and the resulting void was filled with agate or some other material. The cast is in the form of the original limb, but no cell or ring patterns have been preserved.

A fossil limb section is a portion of petrified wood. As the wood decayed, it was gradually and completely replaced by mineral deposits, cell by cell. This, a part of the wood structure - cells & rings - has been preserved.

via Rock Rollers, 7/08; from Petrified Digest, 4/08

Use a glasscutter to do your trimming of slabs. Saves your diamond blade for more detailed work. Use one with a carbide wheel, not tungsten. Put a good solid handle on it so you can bear down hard, then use pliers to break the slab along the scored line.

via Rock Rollers, 6/08; via Scribe, 2/08; via Rock Chips, 7/98; from Rockhound News

### From Atop The Rock Pile

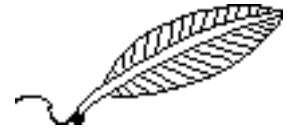


By Bill Cook, 2010 BEMS President

Delores Oswald donated twenty dollars to cover the cost of the meeting space for the month of February, and on behalf of the club membership I would like thank her and let her know that we appreciate her. I would also like to ask that other members consider sponsoring a meeting this year to help defray this cost for the club. Also, I would like to remind our members to bring refreshments to next month's meeting.

Thank you,

### Young Richard's Almanac by Dick Morgan



If at first you don't succeed, blame the guy who tried it ahead of you.

If you're young at heart, Groundhog's Day makes you wonder why we have weathermen when animals seem to do a better job of predicting the weather?

If you're young at heart, Valentine's Day brings the thoughts of candy or flowers to your loved one.

### Rocks and Wood, Natural Partners by Marcia Wollam

This slant on rock-hounding requires only a camera and some blank card stock with envelopes. I keep off-white blanks, which have space for a photo, and an assortment of envelope colors, to complement the picture.

Plan: A day on a beach

Pick: Rocks that appeal to you

Polish: (or not!) hint.. most rocks look good wet!

Pair: Your rocks with pieces of select driftwood

Photo: The happy couples

Print: The pictures

Post in the mail to your favorite rock-deprived family member or friend!

Recipients will be either 1) Amazed! 2) Perplexed. or 3) Instant rock-hounds!

(If you never hear from the person again, you have your answer. On the other hand, you may need to become a teacher, so don't mail too many in one year.)

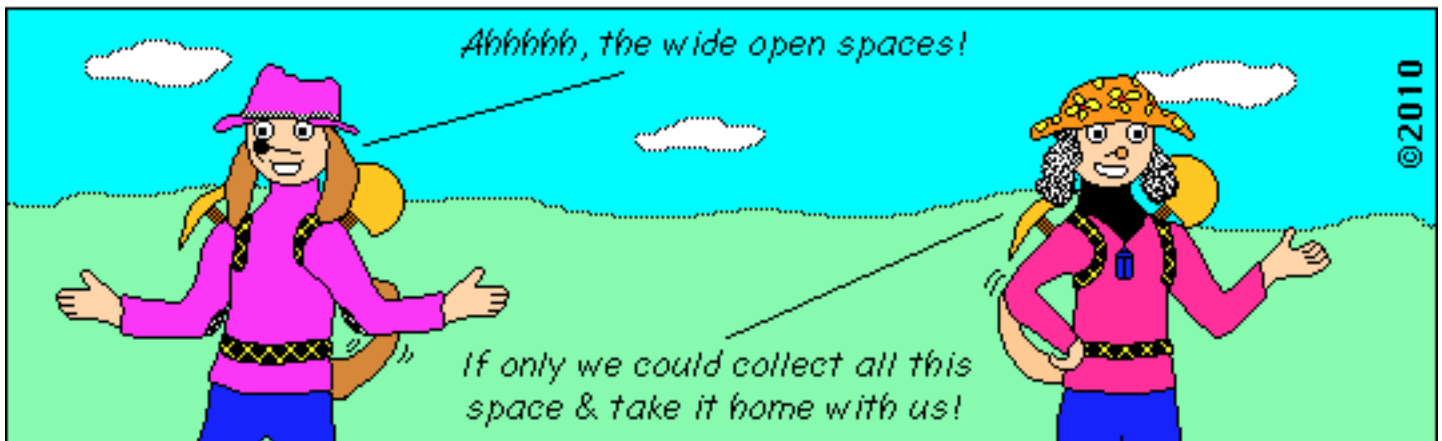
Washington beaches are loaded with endless candidates of rock and wood, so get out there!

Long pins and T-pins used to hold specimens in place should be colored like the lining (dipped in paint) so they are inconspicuous. Labels should be clear and sharp and readable without pressing your nose to the glass.

via Breccia, 1/10; via Rock Chip Reporter, 5/06; via Rockhound Ramblings, 2/06; from Gems of the Rogue

### Mr. and Mrs. Rockhound

by KAM



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**Legislative Action Affecting Rockhounds** by John Martin, AFMS Conservation & Legislation Chair

With the current political climate in Washington today the environmental activists are having a field day with our congress members trying to persuade them to introduce new wilderness legislation, and it is working. Here are just a few of the attempts that are currently taking place across our great country.

California - Senator Diane Feinstein is introducing the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act which if enacted will restrict usage of almost 2 million acres of California's Public Desert Land with the creation of 2 new national monuments, 7 new wilderness areas, and the expansion of Death Valley National Park. Two million acres is almost the size of the state of Connecticut! Can you imagine restricting the state of Connecticut to no roads, no rock fossil, sea shell or mineral collecting? That is what is being attempted for California.

Colorado - We've been told that a well financed pro-environmental wilderness bill is coming to Colorado. Called the "Hidden Gems Wilderness," this will encompass 600,000 acres and close them to all. The environmentalists are pressuring Congressman Jared Polis to introduce the bill. Please have your members contact Congressman Polis and express your concern. The money to get this bill passed is from big foundation money from Washington, DC. Don't let outsiders come in and lock up Colorado's public land.

Montana - A huge wilderness bill is coming to Montana disguised as a Forest Job and Recreation Act. It seems that its true motive is to put Montana land into Wilderness. Jon Tester, Senator from Montana is being urged by the pro-environmentalists to sponsor this bill. The proposed amount of land in this proposal is 677,000 acres. You might want to alert the clubs in Montana and research this information. Contact Senator Tester's office locally and ask about the proposed bill. They will try and tell you it's about forests and jobs — NOT SO!

According to Brian Hawthorne, Blue Ribbon Coalition, the bill is strong on wilderness, but doesn't add any new recreation areas. This has a lot to do with forest management and timber logging, but what is already in place, if put into use would take care of the problems, according to former Forest Service Planner, Fred Hodgeboom and now president of Montanan's for Multiple Use organization. As the new bill is written it creates area for new environmental lawsuits to stop logging on land that has been left susceptible to forest fires, disease and insect devastation. Most of the lands are on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. This bill eliminates a lot of existing recreational opportunities.

Oregon - House Bill 3609 Oregon Marine Reserves. "Marine Reserve" is an area within Oregon's Territorial Sea or adjacent rocky inter-tidal area that is protected from all extractive activities, including the removal or disturbance of living and non-living marine resources, except as necessary for monitoring or research to evaluate reserve condition, effectiveness, or impact of stressors.

This bill will create reserves all along the public coast of Oregon where it will be unlawful to Collect, pick, cut, mutilate or remove living or non-living natural products or dig up or remove any soil, rock, or fossil materials from the ocean shore. "Natural product" means living or non-living natural products on the ocean shore, including marine plants, minerals, shells, rocks, and sand. The Oregon Coastline is famous as a heavy hunting ground for Agates, Jaspers, Fossils and Pyrite Cubes. The proposed Marine Reserve will eliminate Rock hunting that Oregonians have historically done for over a century along the Rocky Shores of Oregon's Coast.

Utah - America's Red Rock Wilderness Act S. 799 & HR 1925. The American's Red Rock Wilderness Act of 2009 will designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah. This bill, if enacted, would designate 9.4 million acres of land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Utah as Wilderness.

The areas considered for closure are:

Great Basin Areas - 2,240,827 acres

Zion/Mojave Desert Areas - 160,000 acres

Grand Staircase-Escalante Areas - 1,771,717 acres

Moab-LaSal Canyons Areas - 256,815 acres

Henry Mountains Areas - 444,204 acres

Glen Canyon Areas - 906,446 acres

San Juan-Anasazi Areas - 520,606 acres

Canyonlands Basin Areas - 689,884 acres

San Rafael Swell Areas - 1,098,773 acres

Book Cliffs/Uinta Basin Areas - 1,015,821 acres

There is no question that our access to Rockhounding sites would be severely curtailed, if not totally destroyed, by these bills. Sec. 209 withdraws entry and disposition of minerals, so we can't pick up anything anyway.

On the national front the Clean Water Restoration Act of 2009, (S. 787), will treat, as 'waters of the United States', those features that were treated as such pursuant to the regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Corps of Engineers in existence before the dates of the decisions referred to in paragraph, including—

(A) All waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide;

(B) All interstate waters, including interstate wetlands;

(C) all other waters, such as intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds;

- (D) All impoundments of waters of the United States;
- (E) Tributaries of the aforementioned waters;
- (F) The territorial seas; and
- (G) Wetlands adjacent to the aforementioned waters;

What this basically means that if enacted will put all ponds, streams, seasonal mud holes on public and private land under the control of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and not the private property owner.

Also of interest to Rockhounds is the "Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2009", (H. R. 699) which was introduced to the House of Representatives on January 27, 2009. This Bill will modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain lands, consistent with the principles of self-initiation of mining claims, and for other purposes. It will impose limitation on patents (Claims), require a royalty be paid for the removal of minerals, add or increase hardrock mining claim maintenance fees, effect of payments for use and occupancy of claims. All of these actions may have negative effects on Rock Clubs or Societies which currently hold or may be trying to file claims on BLM, Forest, or other public lands.

What can we as rockhounds do? Use the internet, email, Fax, or the US Postal Service to contact both your state and federal elected officials and let them know what your concerns are regarding the closure and withdrawing of public land from public usage. Support and join organizations like the Blue Ribbon Coalition, <[www.shaetrails.org](http://www.shaetrails.org)> , American Land Rights Association, <[www.landrights.org](http://www.landrights.org)>, AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION (A.L.A.A) <[www..amlands.org](http://www..amlands.org)>. These groups are fighting to keep our Public Lands Open to all Public Users. Please support and use the American Federation of Mineralogical Society and your Regional Federation of Mineralogical Societies, they have information and resources that can help in all aspects of Rockhounding.

If anyone hears of new or pending legislation in your state or Regional Federation please feel free to contact me with the pertinent information and I will attempt to investigate and disseminate the information to those who may be affected. I can be contacted at <[webmaster@amlands.org](mailto:webmaster@amlands.org)> or through the AFMS Website.

from the AFMS Newsletter, 12/09

## What is Jade? by Don Shurtz

Jade is Nephrite. Jade is Jadeite. But until 1863, jade was just jade. It wasn't until 1863 that it was determined that there really were two forms of jade. In 1863 the French mineralogist Alexis Damour, while studying Chinese jade pieces, determined that there were really two forms of jade, jadeite (also called hard jade) and nephrite (also called soft jade).

Chemically the two forms of jade are really quite dissimilar. Jadeite is a form of pyroxene, its chemical composition is  $\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6$ . Nephrite is a form of amphibole, its chemical composition is  $\text{Ca}_2(\text{Mg,Fe})_5\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_2$ . Neither form of jade is found in crystalline form.

When I think of jade, I think of China. 5000 years ago jade was venerated in China as YU, the royal gem. For most of the 5000 years, the Chinese works of art were formed from nephrite. It is only in the last 400 years that jadeite was imported from Burma to China where it was carved into works of art. During the California gold rush days, many of the miners wondered why many Chinese workers were seen hauling large boulders of green rock rather than panning for gold, but to the Chinese the California nephrite was much more valuable than gold.

When I think of jade I also think of the Aztec and earlier cultures and their fascination with jade. While the predominate type of jade artifacts from China were made from jadeite, the jade artifacts of the early South and Central American cultures were made from nephrite. Many jade artifacts and tools are found in Aztec and earlier ruins. The Olmec artisans were carving jade items over 3000 years ago. To the Aztec people, jade was only worn by royalty, and only on certain occasions. Jade was a symbol of life and purity. It was only recently that a major source of the Aztec jade, known as blue jade, was rediscovered in Guatemala.

Today when I think of jade I think of British Columbia. Massive quantities of nephrite jade have been discovered in British Columbia and are now being actively mined. Jade is also found in California, South America, China, and Burma.

### References:

*Jade*, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jade>

*Jade Source*, <http://www.jademart.com/source.htm>

*Gem by Gem, Jade*, <http://www.gemstone.org/gemby-gem/english/jade.html>

*Official Symbols of British Columbia*, <http://www.gov.bc.ca/bcgov/popt/bcfact/default.htm>

*Re-discovery of Olmec blue jade*, <http://www.hgs.org/en/articles/printview.asp?49>

*Chinese Jade*, <http://www.rightreading.com/writing/jade.htm>

*Jade in Mesoamerica*, [http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/jade2/hd\\_jade2.htm](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/jade2/hd_jade2.htm)

via Breccia, 6/06; Via Chips and Chatter 5/06; from Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas, 3/06

Save the inner plastic rings from scotch tape rolls. They make handy stands for spheres.

To display large rocks on a pedestal, remove the top and bottom of a tuna can and spray the can black.

via Breccia, 1/10; via McCurtain G & M Club News, 5/06; from Cutting Remarks, 4/06

### 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>).

**February 20**     *East KingCo Club - Cherry Creek* - Meet at 9:00 am at Safeway in South Duvall - *Jasper* - Wading Creek, Need rock hammer & container

### Driving In The Rain by Paul Stewart

I wonder how many people know about this?

A 36 year old female had an accident several weeks ago and totaled her car. A resident of Kilgore, Texas, she was traveling between Gladewater & Kilgore. It was raining, though not excessively, when her car suddenly began to hydro-plane and literally flew through the air. She was not seriously injured but very stunned at the sudden occurrence!

When she explained to the highway patrolman what had happened he told her something that every driver should know - NEVER DRIVE IN THE RAIN WITH YOUR CRUISE CONTROL ON. She thought she was being cautious by setting the cruise control and maintaining a safe consistent speed in the rain.

But the highway patrolman told her that if the cruise control is on when your car begins to hydro-plane and your tires lose contact with the pavement, your car will accelerate to a higher rate of speed making you take off like an airplane. She told the patrolman that was exactly what had occurred.

The patrolman said this warning should be listed, on the driver's seat sun-visor - NEVER USE THE CRUISE CONTROL WHEN THE PAVEMENT IS WET OR ICY, along with the airbag warning. We tell our teenagers to set the cruise control and drive a safe speed - but we don't tell them to use the cruise control only when the pavement is dry.

The only person the accident victim found, who knew this (besides the patrolman), was a man who had had a similar accident, totaled his car and sustained severe injuries.

NOTE: Some vehicles (like the Toyota Sienna Limited XLE) will not allow you to set the cruise control when the windshield wipers are on.

### Going on a Fossil Hunt

by John Kuhn

One day a fossil hunting I went.  
But my goggles I broke and my pick I bent.  
With not a fossil in sight,  
All I got was a mosquito bite.  
But, lo and behold, at the end of the day,  
I found a Trilobite.

via The Show Me Geode, 8/09; from The Strata Data 12/08



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



# Shows

**February 12-14:** 10 am - 5 pm  
**Oregon Agate and Mineral Society, "We Rock"**  
 OMSI  
 1945 SE Water Avenue  
 Portland, Oregon

**February 13-14:** Saturday 9 am - 5 pm; Sunday 9 am - 4 pm  
**Whidbey Island Gem Club, 45th annual show "Sweetheart of Gems"**  
 Oak Harbor Senior Center  
 51 S.E. Jerome St  
 Oak Harbor, WA

**February 27-28:** Saturday 10 am - 6 pm; Sunday 10 am - 5 pm  
**Everett Rock & Gem Club, 57th annual show**  
 Washington National Guard Armory  
 2730 Oakes Ave  
 Everett, WA

**February 28:** 11 am - 4 pm  
**Rings & Things Bead Tour**  
 Mirabeau Hotel Spokane Valley (Ballroom)  
 1100 N. Sullivan Rd  
 Spokane, WA



## Internet Addresses

**International Colored Gemstone Association**  
<http://www.gemstone.org>

**International Palaeontomological Society**  
<http://fossilinsects.net/>

**The Crystal Master Gallery**  
<http://www.crystalmastergallery.com/>

**Amber Desire**  
<http://www.amberdesire.com/>

**Gemstone Education**  
<http://www.gemstoneeducation.com/>

**The Quartz Page**  
<http://www.quartzpage.de/>

**Stones & Bones**  
<http://www.stonesbones.com/>

**Dinosaur Jungle**  
<http://www.dinosaurjungle.com/>

**Rings & Things**  
<http://www.rings-things.com/>

