



# THE GEODE

Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. (LGMC)

Web Site: [www.lakesidegemandmineralclub.com](http://www.lakesidegemandmineralclub.com)

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Facebook: Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club

Instagram: lakesidegemandmineral

Volume 169 Issue 04

April 2023

**Club purpose:** Promote activities of mutual interest for collecting and displaying of gems and minerals.

**Address:** Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, Inc., PO Box 6652, Kennewick, WA 99336-0603

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## GEODE Submission Deadline:

19<sup>th</sup> of the month for member articles & photos

E-mail: [lakesidegemandmineral@yahoo.com](mailto:lakesidegemandmineral@yahoo.com)

**Membership:** Please pay at meetings or mail in.

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**The Membership List is being updated for 2023 of paid members. Make sure your dues are paid so that you don't miss out on Club Communications and The Geode.**

## Club Meetings & Upcoming Events

Seventh Day Adventist Church, 7105 W 10th Ave, Kennewick

Social at 6:30pm – Meeting at 7:00pm

**April 5, 2023** – Club Meeting – It's All About the Show

**April 11, 2023** – Junior Club Meeting – 6:30pm

**April 15, 2023** – Saddle Mountain, Richland Fred Meyer parking lot, by McDonalds at 9am. We will take a bathroom break at the Vernita Bridge rest stop on the way. This is a 1-1/2 hour drive on pavement and dirt roads, a high-clearance vehicle is recommended. There are no facilities, so bring water, snacks and digging equipment. Petrified wood is main material at this site.

**April 29-30, 2023** – Annual Gem Show

**May, 2023** – Coyote Canyon Mammoth Dig, Walther Rohlfing is organizing this field trip.

**June 10-11, 2023** – Wire Wrapping Classes, Kathy Larson is contact person.

**July 8, 2023** – Wild Turkey Mine, A volunteer is needed as contact for this trip. Mine is about 8 miles from Chewelah, WA. Noble Serpentine can be found here.

## The Show is Almost HERE!!!

Thanks to many of you that signed up to help at the March meeting. **But it wasn't enough!!!** We still have open time slots for working in the silent auction, ticket sales, and geode cracking areas. We still need **24 more people to put in displays**. We **REALLY** need your help with that. Don't be afraid to show off what you have been working on, collecting, or making! This is how we show the public what our hobby is all about and get them interested. And have fun doing it!

### Thursday, April 27

If you are free and able to help us load up supplies at our storage units in Finley on Thursday afternoon please do so. Us retirees can only work so fast and for so long. We need younger bodies to help us. If you are available, please help.

### Friday, April 28

On Friday April 28 we need people to help with setting up the show. **And let's not forget we need to fill up to 36 display cases on Friday!!**

### Saturday and Sunday, April 29-30

On Saturday and Sunday, we need volunteers to sell tickets, work the silent auction area, man the geode cracker, and help with the junior's corner. On Sunday after the show closes we need lots of help to break down everything and return it all to the storage units.

Remember, as a club member you need to sign up to help with something at the show.

By the way, if you have an ice chest we can borrow for the weekend please let me know and plan to drop it off on Friday in Building #3.

We are also hosting the NFMS Mid-Year meeting on Saturday April 29 from 1 – 3 pm in Building #3 so we will have lots of fellow Rockhounds visiting us. I look forward to seeing all of you at the April meeting because **CAN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOUR HELP!** The signup sheets will be there.

If you have items that you would like to donate to the silent auction you can pick up sales slips at the April meeting so you can have them ready to drop off on Friday as we set up the show.

Larry Hulstrom  
Lakeside Show Chairman

### Minutes – Club Meeting, March 1, 2023

Patrick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

- Welcome guests James, Betty, Donna, Ryan, Debbie, Kathy, Jesse and Ken.
- 2 lucky attendees received door prizes.

### Old Business

- Please pay your dues to keep receiving the Geode.
- Don Snyder's bags of rocks are still available. Just bring in something you finished from your previous donation bag for show and tell and you can discover material from a new bag.
- Kathy Larson will be hosting wire wrapping classes on June 10 and 11. Sign up sheets will be available at our regular meetings. A cabochon and either copper or silver wire are included in the cost of the classes. Check out the Geode for further information.

### **Minutes – Club Meeting, March 1, 2023 - continued**

- Chris reported that the Junior Club will be meeting at The Reach in March. She and Pauline are working with the Kennewick School District to find space for April. All other future meetings will be held at The Reach.
- Volunteer signup sheets are available for all areas of the show, including load out from the storage units, set up, table skirting, potluck dinner setup and cleanup, ticket sales, silent auction, geode cracking, hospitality room, raffle table, teardown, and loadout back to the storage units. Of course we need lots of cases to be filled and members to demonstrate sphere making, gem trees, cabbing, silversmith, wire wrapping, faceting or any other skill we use to find or enhance rocks. Also, pick up some show fliers at the next meeting to give to friends, family, coworkers, or strangers at Walmart. Everything we can do to get the word out about the show is appreciated.
- Let Larry know if you would like to order a name tag with either a pin or magnetic back to be worn at our, or any other clubs' show.

### **New Business**

- Check out the Northwest Federation Newsletter to get a list of all club shows for the year. Some local highlights are the Prineville show and Pow Wow, Spokane Rock Rollers show, Yakima show, Walla Walla show, and Hatrock Hounds show in Hermiston.
- Larry needs help from a knowledgeable member to get the word out over social media about our show. Facebook and Instagram seem to be the best way to reach a wide range of people so if you use either of these platforms, please share our show post with your friends and family.
- It was “Bring a Green Rock” night. Steve Shoemaker showed Noble Serpentine, Australian Chrysoprase, Malachite; Caroline brought Nephrite Jade and Helenite from Mt St Helens; Chris had a sphere, Touchet River Opal, and Epidote; Don Snyder brought a large green moss agate; Ron faceted a green Yag; Andy brought Variscite, Kerry showed Jade from the Teanaway River, and a sphere of green Jade; Nickie brought a green silicate from the Teanaway River; Judi had a piece of Jade she found on Facebook, and Jasper from “somewhere”; Willemite from the Franklin Mine in New Jersey was also displayed (but I apologize for not catching who brought it in); Patrick also shared Noble Serpentine from the Wild Turkey mine (which could be a field trip for the club).

Program: Field Trips and Future Programs Wish List. Look for more information on field trips in the Geode.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Sally Lyon, Secretary

### **Minutes – Junior Club Meeting, March 14, 2023**

The junior club is happy to have a new regular meeting place! We are in a partnership with the REACH Museum to have our meetings there. Every second Tuesday at 6:30, 1943 Columbia Park Trail in Richland, on the eastern edge of Columbia Park. The April meeting, however, will be on **Monday April 10**. We will be preparing for the gem and mineral show by practicing creating displays and crafting key chains and bracelets to sell at the juniors' booth. Visitors are always welcome to come see what the club is all about! Contact Pauline for more information: pauschafer@hotmail.com.

### **Mineral of the Month Reports**

**Wavellite** by Juni, age 7

Wavellite is a secondary mineral found in aluminous metamorphic rock. Crystals normally occur as radial or spherical clusters. The outer edges of the clusters contain iron and are UV reactive. Wavellite has a hardness of 3.4 to 4 and a white streak.

## **Minutes – Junior Club Meeting, March 14, 2023 - continued**

### **Stilbite** by Ahziah, age 10

Stilbite means to shine in Greek. The most common color of Stilbite is white, but it can come in yellow, brown, salmon, pink, green, red, blue, orange, and black. It can also be translucent and transparent. It has a hardness of 3.5-4. This mineral crystallizes in the form of thin flattened plates, tabular crystals, as well as aggregates. Mine is made of tabular crystals.

The first Stilbite was found in 1797 in India, but was not named until 1801. It is still mostly found in India, but also in Iceland, the USA, and Scotland.

Stilbite is a type of Zeolite and has one of the strongest energies. It has minerals in it that help you fall asleep at night and helps you remember dreams. This rock has a special energy that helps produce quiet joy and helps you not feel so overwhelmed by the world around you. Stilbite can change your day from bad to great! It calms you down when you are angry or mad.

I tried sleeping with the rock to see if it helped me fall asleep. I found out that it makes me sleep deeper.

## **Minutes - Board Meeting, March 20, 2023**

Present: Officers Patrick Donohue, Peter Kovich, Chris Sorensen, Larry Hulstrom, Jane Moore, Pauline Schafer; Caroline Bowdish via phone; Member Bill Hamel.

Peter called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

### **Old Business:**

- Treasurer's report: Not published per historic Club practices.
- The Club website hosting bill is due.
- The updated Club Policies and Procedures are finalized and will be filed and posted online shortly.
- The Fir Rd field trip was mostly a success, with over 30 members participating.

### **New Business:**

- We are in need of a temporary Secretary and assistant Treasurer.
- Bill Hamel has been the door prize coordinator and also has material that has been donated to the club. He is moving, and having a rock sale on Saturday, March 25th. It was agreed that he could sell the Club material on behalf of the Club, setting aside some for the silent auction and Junior Club. Proceeds and any Club material that does not sell will be returned to the Club at Bill's earliest convenience.
- Jane Moore volunteered to be the new Door Prize coordinator and bring door prizes to meetings. A volunteer to hand out tickets during meetings is still requested.
- RiverFest 2023 is scheduled for October 7th, and the Club has been invited to participate again. The board agreed to register.
- The REACH is running an Earth Day outreach event on April 22, 10 a.m to 1 p.m.; The Club will participate. Volunteers are needed to run the booth, talk about the club, and show off some Earth rocks. Admission to the REACH will be free that day.

### **Junior Club Business:**

- Steve Shoemaker purchased a few lots of small specimens for Monthly Mineral activities. Additional specimens will need to be purchased in the coming months.
- The partnership with the REACH is being finalized. Beginning in April, the Junior Club will meet at the REACH. Meetings will be open to the general public. However, the Monthly Mineral program, Field Trips, and the Geode and Mini Miners newsletters will be for Junior Club members only.

## Minutes - Board Meeting, March 20, 2023 – continued

### Show Business:

- A few dealers have canceled, and Caroline has sent deposit reimbursement checks to the dealers. Larry has found others to fill the open slots.
- Starting in 2024, a new cancellation policy will be enacted, whereby a dealer that cancels within 60 days of the show will be penalized a percent of their deposit. Canceling within 30 days will have an increased penalty.
- A volunteer is needed to be Camp Host during the show.
- Larry continues to work out details of the liability insurance with the Fairgrounds.
- Jane requests another volunteer to help coordinate hospitality during the show. We will also need ice chests loaned from club members.
- The Club still needs many volunteers to help run the show. Sign-ups will be available at the general meeting. Contact Larry or the Club if you are unable to make it to the meeting.
- We also have very few signed up to fill a display case. This is an opportunity to showcase the varied interests of the club. All members are strongly encouraged to exhibit a display case (or two!). Several Junior Club members have expressed interest in displaying material.

April Program: All About the Show!

Bragging Table: Bring in your Fir Road trip finds and any worked material from Don Snyder's program.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Patrick Donohue, President

### Putting Together a Display for the Show

If you're new to the hobby or been at it awhile and have never attempted to put together a display for the annual gem and mineral show it's not all that hard to do. At the April meeting we will provide you with some hints and suggestions to help you organize your materials into a display that you will be proud to have everyone see. And don't worry if you think you don't have enough to fill a display, you can get with someone else and fill it up in no time.

If you are using a Club furnished case all you need are your materials and eye for arranging things into something that is attractive and informative. Where possible you should attempt to label what you are displaying with the name of the material (e.g., jasper, agate, Trilobite, etc.) and the location where the material came from. More tips can be found on the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) website at <http://www.amfed.org/rules/rules.htm> in the AFMS Uniform Rules. These are the rules used for competitive displaying, but that can be the subject for another discussion some other time.

There are a number of fellow Lakeside club members that have been putting together fantastic displays over the years that would be more than willing to answer your questions. So, bring your questions and get started thinking about putting in a case at the upcoming show in April.

Larry Hulstrom

### Raffle Donation Items

If you have an item you would like to donate for the club raffle held at the rock show, please bring it to the April club meeting or call Pat Lambert to have it picked up.

### **Lakeside Hat and T-shirts are on Sale Now!**

It's going to start warming up outside. Do you have a Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club hat or T-shirt yet? They would be great to wear during the April Show coming up! It also helps to advertise our club, and deter would be shop lifters. The T-shirts are available in a variety of adult and children's sizes. If you already have one why not buy another so when one gets dirty you will have a spare.

The Club Board of Directors has approved a reduction in the price of the T-shirts which are now \$5.00 each. Hats are in short supply and remain at \$10.00 each. Help support your Club. See Larry Hulstrom to get yours today! They will be available at club meetings the next few months.

**Display Case for free** Jerry Johnson has a standard size display case for anyone who wants it  
Liners and lights come with the case.

## **Classifieds**

**Mike Zinski's Workshop** for lapidary arts:

**Rock Saw Oil and Grit:** Please have exact change and contact for pickup:

Mickee Madden -

**Saw oil purchasing information:**

- Must be a LSGM club member to purchase saw oil.
  - Membership forms are available if you need to join.
- Oil \$12 per gallon.

Available in 5-gallon buckets, or bring your own containers

**Tumbling grit all sold in 2# bags only:**

- 80 grit: \$5.00 for 2# bag
- 220 grit: \$5.50 for 2#bag
- 600 grit: \$7.00 for 2# bag.
- Cerium Oxide Polish Powder: \$23.00 for 2# bag.
- For every 10 lbs. of tumbled rock you donate (no river rock), get 2 lbs. of 60/90 or 220 grit free.

Contact: Mickee Madden -

### **Selling Items at Club Shows, Auctions and Other Club Related Activities**

Items that could be sold at club shows, auctions and other club related activities:

- Rocks, Minerals, Fossils (specimens, rough).
- Lapidary and carving rough and associated equipment and supplies.
- Rockhounding equipment and supplies.
- Faceting rough and associated equipment and supplies.
- Gold Panning/Metal Detecting equipment and supplies.
- Flint Knapping equipment and supplies.
- Jewelry equipment and supplies.
- Magazines, books, DVDs, CDs, associated with any of the above items/topics.

In short, the items you sell **must be directly related to minerals, rocks, and fossils or jewelry.** Limit of 5 lots per seller. Please remember what we sell reflects upon our club and tells the public what we are about! Note: No auction during the December and January meetings.

Officers E-mail: lakesidegemandmineral@yahoo.com

|                |                  |                 |                 |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| President      | Patrick Donohue  | Director        | Wayne Larson    |
| Vice President | Peter Kovich     | Director        | Jane Moore      |
| Secretary      | Sally Lyon       | Fed. Rep.       | Larry Hulstrom  |
| Treasurer      | Caroline Bowdish | Jr Club Leader  | Pauline Schafer |
| Past President | Chris Sorensen   | Bulletin Editor | Patty DeForest  |

Phone numbers are all Area Code 509. By-Laws specify two year elected terms of office for Board Members, beginning in November. President, Vice President and one Director begin in even numbered years. Secretary, Treasurer and one Director (\*) begin in odd numbered years. Federation Representative, Junior Club Leader, Bulletin Editor and Committee Chairs are Board-approved volunteers. By-Laws at [www.lakesidegemandmineralclub.com](http://www.lakesidegemandmineralclub.com)

**Other Contact Info:**

Program Director:  
 Librarian: Walther Rohlfing  
 Membership Coordinator: Kathy Larson  
 Mark Kidder  
 Refreshments:  
 Historian: Mickee Madden  
 Sunshine Chairman: Sally Lyon

**Rockhound Legislative Advocate**

When notified by the AFMS, the NFMS, ALAA or club members about legislative issues that will affect rockhounding activities, forward that information to club members via email lists.



**Club Affiliations:**

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)  
 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS)  
 American Lands Access Association (ALAA)

<http://www.amfed.org>  
<http://www.amfed.org/nfms>  
<http://www.amlands.org>



Member: Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau

# THE GEODE

Volume 169 Issue 04

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**LAKESIDE GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.**

**PO Box 6652**

**Kennewick, WA 99336-0603**

## **When Pyrite Goes Bad!**

“Pyrite Decay” is one of the biggest problems for mineral collectors. Minerals that are made of iron and sulfur can have this problem. The two most common minerals are pyrite and marcasite.

For reasons that scientists have not been able to fully understand, the sulfur and iron in these minerals combine with oxygen and hydrogen. The sulfur reacts to become sulfuric acid and the stinky gas called hydrogen sulfide. “Hydrogen sulfide” smells like rotten eggs.

If you have pyrite or marcasite in your collections and it is decaying, you will be able to smell the sulfur! Open a drawer with pyrite in it and sniff. When this chemical reaction happens, the pyrite and marcasite specimens will first turn dark and lose their shiny metallic luster. Over time you will begin to see yellow and white crusts form. The crusts will be crumbly and will rub off very easily. In the worst case, the specimen will actually fall apart! As the specimens deteriorate, the acids created will attack your specimen labels, too. The paper will turn brown and very brittle.

Scientists don't know how to stop or even control pyrite decay. There are two things that are known that can help you:

1. When one pyrite or marcasite specimen deteriorates, it can cause other specimens nearby to deteriorate, too. If you have a number of pyrite and marcasite pieces, keep them separated from one another. If you have a specimen that is beginning to deteriorate, remove it from the collection immediately.
2. Remember that one of the chemicals created by pyrite decay is the gas called hydrogen sulfide. Keep your specimens in a place where the fumes can't build up. On an open shelf is a good option. In other words, good air circulation helps.

Many mineral collectors report that pyrite specimens that are more of a darker greenish color are much more likely to change and fall apart from pyrite disease. Avoiding adding pyrite specimens that are darker in color is smart. Bright, brassy, metallic pyrite crystals are much less likely to have pyrite disease. There are some pyrite specimens, like the great cubes and groups of cubes from Spain, that don't seem to get pyrite disease. The bright, shiny, metallic pyrite specimens from Peru also seem to not break down with this disease.

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