



THE GEODE

Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. (LGMC)

Web Site: www.lakesidegemandmineralclub.com

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Facebook: Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club

Instagram: [lakesidegemandmineral](https://www.instagram.com/lakesidegemandmineral)

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

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GEODE Submission Deadline:

19th of each month for member articles & photos

E-mail: lakesidegemandmineral@yahoo.com

Membership: Please pay at meetings or mail in.

Membership Form: [Officers & New Members Info \(lakesidegemandmineralclub.com\)](http://lakesidegemandmineralclub.com)

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Club Meetings & Upcoming Events

Meetings: First Tuesday of the Month - Social at 6:30 pm, Meeting at 7 pm.
Seventh Day Adventist Church, 7105 W 10th Ave, Kennewick

January 2, 2024 - General Club Meeting. The program will be **Rock Bingo**. Please bring a rock, gem or mineral (or several) to add to the prize pot.

January 9, 2024 - Junior Club Meeting at The REACH 6:30 pm – 8 pm.

January 15, 2024 - Board Meeting, 6:30 pm

February 6, 2024 – General Club Meeting, 6:30 pm

Minutes – Meeting, December 5, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Patrick.

This meeting was the Club’s annual Holiday Party. Club members brought desserts to share and the Annual Project of the Year Awards. This year’s theme was “Rocking With the Stars”.

After the presentations by entrants and the voting by club members, the following rockhounds were voted the winners of each category. Congratulations to all the winners (following).



Category 1: **Karper Hemperly** won the Best Color category for her blue and green jasper.



Category 2: **Terry Clouse** won The Most Unique Rock category for his “Ham Dinner”.



Category 3: **Larry Hulstrom** won the Best Fossil category for his Triceratops frill.



Category 4 – **Heather Coleman** won the Jewelry category for her bezel-set coral



Category 5 – Club President, **Patrick Donohue** won the Faceter of The Year category for his faceted Oregon sunstone.



Category 6 – **Allyson Leonhard** won the Cabochon of the Year category for a pair of opal cabochons.



Category 7 -
Silverpicker of
the Year: **Larry
Hulstrom** won
for a massive
pink limb cast.



Category 8 – **Karli Cook** won the Best
Find category for a beautiful piece of
silver sheen obsidian.



Category 9 - Project of the Year
was won by **Kerry Norton** for his
multi-year project The Prosser
Labyrinth.

A Message from the President . . .



Welcome to 2024!

I wanted to start off this year by thanking everyone for their support in 2023. Looking back, there is much to be proud of, including: several excellent presentations by our own members and guest speakers; a high-quality gem show; exhibited at community events; organized several club field trips. Let's keep it up and see what other opportunities we can embrace in 2024.

We are solidly on the upswing after the pandemic, and our membership continues to grow. I've enjoyed hearing about new members joining the regular and junior clubs. To that end, I hope some of our newer members think about joining the Board this year and continue to volunteer in our many club events. This is a volunteer-run organization, after all! I'll also put out a formal plea for everyone to make sure their email address is up to date with the club. This is the best way for us to contact you to mail out the Geode and for urgent club business – announcements, the rarely cancelled meetings, and show details.

Now is the time to start thinking ahead to the new year. There are several field trip locations we didn't get the chance to visit in 2023, and we are always open to new locations. In particular, if you've been to the Naches thunderegg sites, Red Top, or First Creek, consider volunteering to organize a trip! The two main roles of the organizer are to be a point of contact for attendees wishing to go, and to either lead a caravan or know where to go/park/walk to the sites of interest.

Lastly, I want to encourage everyone in the club to try at least one new thing this year. If you've never made a cabochon, this is your time! Never set a stone in a ring or wire-wrapped? Try it this year. Or lead a field trip, take up an officer position this fall, or participate in the club in a new way. Every month we gather decades of experience into a single room and what is it all for if not to share our experiences and love of the hobby?

Good luck, and I'm sure we all look forward to hearing about your new experiences this year.

Board Meeting Minutes - November 20 , 2023

Present: Patrick Donohue, Sally Lyon, Larry Hulstrom, Chris Sorenson, Peter Kovich, Wayne Larson, Lisa Nordin, Pauline Schafer, Jane Moore, Randy LaBarge, Debbie Muller.

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Peter.

Old Business

- Treasurer's Report - Well in the black, Bills are paid, account balanced, Vendor payments, and membership dues payments.
- Junior Club Report - doing "awesome", meeting keeps getting bigger - last time was 29 kids & 27 adults, December party will award badges earned and there will be food - club will pay for the Chicken.
- Membership report - decided we need to repeat "Please check your email is correct at meeting."
- December meeting will be Christmas Party - Dessert buffet and Rock Bingo, materials gathered.
- Continued discussion of club-owned laptop computer - decided needs to be brought to the membership; use for speakers as needed, and at the show in April and possibly used & kept by Treasurer who would bring to meetings; additional costs for MS Office and virus protection. Decided to table for now.
- Financial Audit has been completed and was very thorough. Thank you very much, Lisa!
- New signs are done
- Bagging party made approx. 150 grab bags, but pretty sparse diversification, so we need more tumbled rocks.
- Need a keychain making party in Jan. or Feb.
- 15 people want name badges.
- Lifetime Memberships - Ed Thornton, Looms and 1 other; Larry will call them.
- Tabled a discussion of club buying fluorescent bulbs.

New Business

- Donation to scholarship fund of \$75 in honor of Marvin Barger - Larry made the motion, Jane seconded, passed unanimously.
- The show - Larry met with Fairgrounds staff again; has a draft copy of lease agreement - have worked out some of the conflicts and are close to signing. Patrick, Wayne & Larry will be going to the next meeting. Areas of mention - Dealer parking, Camping, Tailgate, copy of security agreement. Larry reminded us that he added cancellation fees to the dealer contracts for 2024 show. 4 or 5 dealers have already responded.
- Julia Gifford's husband, Ray, passed away. Discussed them having a booth at fair, which doesn't work. Generally, we've helped the family with an open house or an estate sale. Another query about the family participating in tailgating event at the show. Larry will mention to neighboring clubs. Should put it in the Geode.
- No board meeting in December. Next will be in January 2024.
- Chris reminded us that it's time to review the By-Laws.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Junior Club Meeting Minutes - November 14, 2023

At our November meeting we had a special guest presenter, Neil Mara from MCBONES/Coyote Canyon mammoth dig. Neil showed us life-sized replicas of the Columbian mammoth bones found at the dig site, and answered lots of questions about mammoths and how we learn about them.

Junior members are doing great research about minerals and enjoy sharing their discoveries, so please read the Mineral of the Month reports they shared below.

The December meeting will be the holiday party. Badges will be presented to those members who are keeping track of their learning through the AFMS badge program.

Members should watch their email for details about the party or contact Pauline at pauschafer@hotmail.com.

Mineral of the Month Reports

Ammonites (fossils) by Zelda

Ammonites were a kind of marine cephalopod that lived in the time of the dinosaurs. They formed spirally chambered shells. My specimen has a little bit of nacre that is iridescent when you look at it the right way. Nacre is another word for mother-of-pearl, which is the inside lining of a shell. Most shells like the ammonite are made of calcium carbonate. This specimen is a fossilized ammonite, it was formed through mineralization.

Mineralization is when organic material makes a hole in the forming sedimentary rock. Minerals dissolved in water seep through cracks in the rock into the cavity that the organic material made. The minerals are deposited when the water goes away again and crystals form in the cavity or hole. My ammonite is made of quartz and other silicates. You can see a little bit of the matrix on it, too.

Stilbite by Isaac

Stilbite is actually two mineral species named Stilbite-CA and Stilbite-NA. Stilbite-CA is more common with the larger portion of the mineral being calcium. Stilbite-NA is less common with the larger portion of the mineral being sodium. Stilbite was originally considered a single mineral until it was separated in 1818. Stilbite is usually colorless or white, but it can also come in a range of other colors more rarely. Stilbite is a hydrothermal mineral found in volcanic rock.

Aragonite from Morocco by Avery

Morocco is located in the Middle Atlas Mountains. Aragonite is made of calcite and calcium carbonate. And it is a popular mineral among collectors. Its hardness is 3.5. It preserves ancient fossils and is used for healing.

Apophyllite by Isaac

The name apophyllite is derived from the Greek language, meaning "it flakes off," a reference to this class's tendency to flake apart when heated, due to water loss.

This mineral is typically found as a secondary mineral in basalt or other volcanic rocks. The mineral can be found all around the world. Some people believe apophyllite is a healing mineral that can cleanse the mind and body of negative energy.

Mineral of the Month Reports (con't)

Aragonite by Harper

1. Aragonite is rare.
2. The Mexican Blue Aragonite beads can glow in the dark.
3. Some types like Flos Ferri are fragile and can break easily when touched. So be careful!
4. A form of calcium carbonate, it is a glassy colorless crystal similar to calcite with a hardness of 3.5 to 4 on the Mohs scale.
4. Aragonite is a carbonate and one of the three most common naturally occurring crystal forms of calcium carbonate, the others being calcite and vaterite.

Garnets by Caleb

Garnets have been prized by humanity since the Bronze Age for their beauty and their hardness that made them useful in tools. All garnets share similar physical properties and crystal form, however they differ in chemical composition, splitting them in two groups, pyrope and ugrandite. The pyrope group contains pyrope, almandine, and spessartite garnets. These garnets contain traces of iron and aluminum, giving them a reddish color. The name pyrope is a combination of pyrope, almandine, and spessartite. The ugrandite group, which contains uvarovite, grossularite, andradite, also got its name this way. These garnets contain chromium and calcium, giving them a green color. I will only cover the pyrope group in this month's report and will go over the ugrandite group next month.

Pyrope garnets, the first of the pyrope group, get their name from the Greek word for fire-like, due to their red-orange color. It has a hardness of 7 to 7.5 making it useful for anything from sandpaper to water-assisted cutting. They can be found in igneous rocks all over the world.

The next garnet group is almandine. Almandine garnets are the most common of the pyrope group. Almandine is the state mineral of Connecticut and the state gem of New York. It can be found nearly everywhere but it is commercially mined in Sri Lanka and Brazil. It has the same hardness of Pyrope garnets and is used to make grinding wheels and saws due to how common it is. It is even believed to be able to help with circulation.

The last garnet in the pyrope group is the spessartite garnet. This garnet is different from the other pyrope garnets because it has a higher range of hardness, from 6.5 to 7.5. It is usually dark red to black which sometimes makes it unfit for jewelry. It can be found in metamorphic rocks all over the globe.

I hope you enjoyed learning about pyrope garnets. I look forward to presenting part two of this report next month.

Clinoptilolite by Jamison

- A Natural zeolite
- An additive to cow feed and house products.
- Used as an ion exchanger
- Unproven healing effects, not approved as a food supplement

Mineral of the Month Reports (con't)

Copper by Mara

Copper was the first metal used by humans, dating back to 8700 B.C. in Iraq. It has been used for almost 10,000 years. Copper is a shiny reddish color. A fun fact is that copper is one of the few metals that's not silver or gray. Copper, when tarnished, turns into a moss green color. That means the Statue of Liberty is tarnished! The crystals in copper are isometric, which means they're a cube. Copper is used for many things like: electrical wire, cooking utensils, and alloys like brass and bronze. Copper is rarely in meteorites, and copper is very malleable, which means it can be shaped easily. Copper is its own element, Cu. On the Mohs scale it is 3.0. Last but not least, copper can be found all over the world! Have a great day all of you! Bye!

New Geode Editor

Greetings Rockhounds. . . As of this issue The Geode has a new editor. My name is Randy LaBarge. Many of you know me, but many don't so let me introduce myself. I'm originally from Grandville, Michigan but a career in the Air Force led me to live in a number of different places. After a full career in the Air Force I left in 1985 and took a job with Battelle. After 22 years at Battelle I retired and had time to do things I really like; like taking field trips to collect rocks. I was the original editor of The Entertainer newspaper. I've also written feature length and short screenplays. Many of my short screenplays have been made into movies by a local production company I helped start here in the Tri-Cities.

I look forward to connecting with as many of you as possible. And in the interest of continuous improvement, I'm open to any ideas you might have for things you would want to see in The Geode. You can connect with me at a club meeting or via the club email lakesidegemandmineral@yahoo.com.



The new Geode editor, **Randy LaBarge**, hanging with Buffalo Bill in Cody, Wyoming.

Special Thanks

Finally, I want to personally thank **Patty DeForest** for editing the Geode for the past four years and for helping make this transition as smooth as possible.

The following article was published in the Tri-City Herald on Monday, November 27th and is reprinted here with permission of the Publisher.

Popular rockhounding areas in Washington are hot spots for agates and fossils.

BY KARLEE VAN DE VENTER

Washington state is a hotbed for minerals, gemstones, crystals and fossils, making the Evergreen state a popular site for rockhounding.

Whether in an official group or going solo, rockhounding is the act of searching for and collecting them.

Rockhounding is legal in Washington for certain materials. The material guidelines will depend on where you are: federal land, land managed by the Department of Natural Resources or private land.

In winter, rockhounds tend to visit Washington's beaches to look along the shore or anywhere a river meets the sea.

WA DNR-managed land

The Department of Natural Resources manages two kinds of land that allow rockhounding, state-owned aquatic land and state trust land.

Rockhounding is allowed on these lands under non-commercial circumstances, including recreation, research and education. Individuals can hunt for rocks without a permit, groups need a non-exclusive land-use license.

Rock enthusiasts cannot bring mechanized equipment or explosives for the process. DNR must retain access to the area. Special habitats should be avoided.

If interested in gold panning, you need authorization on state-owned aquatic lands. It is not allowed on state trust lands. You cannot rockhound for gold on DNR lands.

Federal land

Some land owned by the federal government allows rockhounding. Sometimes, it is restricted to one area of federal land. Either way, the land will be managed by either the U.S. Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management.

Guidelines and restrictions will vary from one place to the next, so call a local agency before making a trip.

In general, land managed by the U.S. Forest Service, like the Umatilla National Forest, allows a reasonable collection of rocks and minerals for personal, hobby and noncommercial use. Generally, "reasonable" is defined as up to 10 pounds. Some hobby mining activities also are allowed.

Rockhounding is permissible in many Bureau of Land Management areas with no permit required. Similarly, it allows for a reasonable amount, defined as up to 25 pounds a day and 250 pounds per year, of common fossils, gemstones and certain other materials for personal use.

The Bureau of Land Management manages the Horse Heaven Hills area and the Saddle Mountains.

Rockhounding in Washington (con't)

You are expected to know the regulations for rockhounding in a specific area before arriving. It will be prohibited in some areas and motorized equipment is generally not allowed.

Rockhounding is never allowed at: National parks, National monuments, National wildlife refuges, National scenic areas or Tribal lands

Rockhounding on private land

A property owner can obtain mineral rights to the property, giving them the right to collect minerals found on their property and grant the same right to whoever they choose.

Check your property deed or with the county assessor's office to determine if your property came with mineral rights.

You cannot rockhound on private property without the owner's permission.

Rockhounding in WA during winter

Some rockhounds just can't take time off. Though many popular recreational areas have limited access in the winter, that hasn't stopped enthusiasts from finding rare rocks and minerals in the Evergreen state during cold seasons.

In recent years, the rockhounding community has grown online, with websites and forums dedicated to the hobby, enthusiasts posting on social media and new digital spaces for sharing tips and tricks. In each platform, Washington rockhounds rave about one type of location during the winter months: beaches.

Washington has many beaches, dotting the coastline or within the state borders. When winter comes around, these beaches endure storms and crashing waves moving at high speeds.

These storms tend to move around more dense rocks and minerals, littering the sand and gravel with fine materials. Hitting an Evergreen state beach the morning after a winter storm is a great way to look for any rocks or minerals you haven't collected yet. Gravel bars along rivers are also recommended for this.

Washington beaches popular among rockhounds: Crescent Beach, Dungeness River gravel, Long Beach/Ocean Park, Moclips area beaches, Shi Shi Beach, and Columbia River sands

What you can and can't rockhound

Once you've established the property-specific rules, be sure to remember the basic rules of what you can and can't take. If the property rules don't address a specific material, refer to these guidelines. Collecting material without permission can come with a substantial fine.

You CAN rockhound: Agates, Amethysts, Garnets, Jaspers, Opals, Gold (Rockhounding, not panning), and Invertebrate fossils, like the state gemstone petrified wood

Without a permit, you CANNOT rockhound: Meteorites, Vertebrate fossils, Archeological or historic artifacts. Permits for these permissions are granted for scientific purposes only, according to DNR. If you find one, contact the local agency office.

Lakeside Lifetime Membership Class of 2023

At the November club meeting the latest inductees into the Lakeside Lifetime Membership Group were recognized.

In attendance were (l to r), Alex Williams receiving the certificate for Barbara Harris, Kerry Norton and Wayne Larson.



At the December meeting we caught up with Heather Moon, accepting the certificate for her parents Tom and Eileen Moon, and Ed Thornton.



We will have to catch up with **John Silko** at a later date.

As stated in the Article III, Section III of the Club By-Laws, any member who has reached the age of 70 and has been an active club member for at least 15 years shall be eligible for Lifetime Membership. This membership shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Lifetime Members receive waiver of monthly club dues and receive the monthly Club bulletin.

Congratulations to the newly inducted Lifetime members and to all current Lifetime club members.

Lakeside Hat and T-shirts are on Sale Now!

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 shoplifters. The T-shirts are available in a variety of adult and children's sizes. If you already have one why not buy another so you'll 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 for the next few months.

Stamps, Stamps and More Stamps - Are Still Needed

The Stamp Volunteers ask that you watch your daily mail for cancelled or uncancelled stamps – not the metered postage. They are donating stamp money to the Federation Youth Scholarship Program and ask for your donations. They do not want flag stamps, but they do want commemorative (non-flag) stamps, foreign stamps or stamp collections. Stamps submitted need to have at least 1/4 inch of paper around them if you are removing them from the envelope. You can just tear the end off the envelope if it is handier for you. Please bring any stamps collected during the month to the next Club meeting and give them to Pat Lambert.

Classifieds

Mike Zinski's workshop is available for lapidary arts.

Rock Saw Oil and Tumbling Grit is available through Mickee Madden. Please have exact change at pick-up.

Saw Oil purchasing information: Oil is \$12 per gallon and is available in 5 gallon containers or you can bring your own container. You must be a club member to purchase saw oil. See Membership forms below.

Tumbling Grit is sold in 2 pound bags only.

- 80 grit \$5.50
- 220 grit \$6.80
- 600 grit \$8.50
- Cerium oxide polish powder \$23.00

Note: For every 10 pounds of tumbled rock you donate to the Club (no river rock) you will get 2 pounds of 80 grit OR 220 grit free.

Club Membership forms are available online:

<https://www.lakesidegemandmineralclub.com/officers---new-members-info.html>

Lakeside Gem and Minerals Club Officers
 Officers E-mail: lakesidegemandmineral@yahoo.com

President	Patrick Donohue	Director	Wayne Larson
Vice President	Peter Kovich	Director	Jane Moore
Secretary	Debbie Muller	Fed. Rep.	Larry Hulstrom
Treasurer	Sally Lyon	Jr Club Leader	Pauline Schafer
Past President	Chris Sorensen	Bulletin Editor	Randy LaBarge
Program Director		Librarian	Walther Rohlfig
Membership	Lisa Nolan	Refreshments	
Sunshine	Sally Lyon	Historian	<u>Mickee Madden</u>

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

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

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