

THE GEODE

Volume 34, Issue 3

March 2008

**Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club
meeting will be
March 5th at 7 pm.**

Refreshments: Kerry Norton, Al &
Kathy Krogh, and Judi Allison

**Junior club meeting is
March 11th at 6:30 pm.**

**Show (6:30 pm) and Board of
Directors meetings (7:30 pm)**

March 17th

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March mini-sessions: Larry Hulstrom will give a short talk about putting a display together for the rock show (more on page 2).

Bragging table: Bring a rock with a picture in it or scenic jasper to share.

Discussion: Pat Lambert would like to know if anyone has visited the Paul Broste Rock Museum in Parshall, North Dakota. A summary of the on-line information available follows.

Paul Broste, a local farmer, began collecting rocks during the 1920s. He cut, ground and polished the rocks into slabs and spheres, hoping one day to house them in a museum.

The museum is built of natural granite quarried from the area. The entire structure was done with volunteer labor and opened in 1965.

Many of the rocks on display come from the surrounding area but rare rocks from around the world are displayed. One large fluorite crystal is considered priceless.

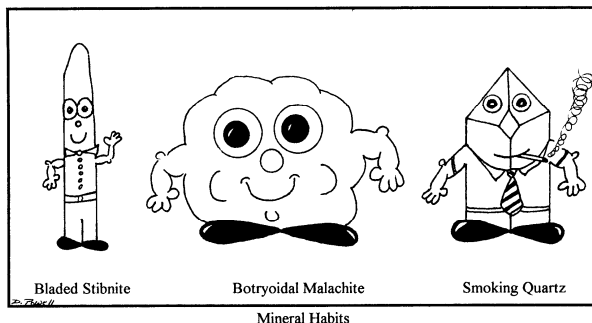
Information is available at

LAKESIDE JUNIOR CLUB

Banner Bank, 203 W. First Ave
Kennewick, WA

President :Michaela Coleman
V. President : Darian Reining
Secretary : Syerria Stanney
Advisors:
Steve Shoemaker
Leona George
Amy Coleman
Maria Weis

NEXT MEETING: March 11th, 2008



From Crystal Clips V.

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 March 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 partner 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.

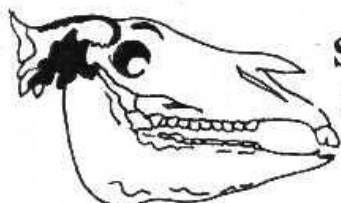
Larry Hulstrom

2008 GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Presented by:

Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club

Benton County Fairgrounds, Kennewick Washington



Saturday, April 19 - 10 am to 5pm
Sunday, April 20 - 10 am to 4 pm
(tailgating - Sunday - 9 am to noon)

EVENT WILL HOST:

- *MINERALS, FOSSILS, JEWELRY DEALERS
- *COLLECTORS EXHIBITS
- *BEAUTIFUL FLUORESCENT DISPLAYS
- *SILENT AUCTIONS FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN
- *KID'S KORNER - GAMES AND CRAFTS
- *GREAT DOOR PRIZES
- *DEMONSTRATIONS INCLUDE: GEM FACETING
SPHERE MAKING
INTARSIA
WIRE WRAPPING
CABOCHON MAKING



CHILDREN FREE WITH PAID ADULT. Adult admission - \$3.00 (good for both days)



Flier courtesy of Linda Spinner.

Lakeside Gem and Mineral Show meeting minutes
February 18, 2008

Attendance: Linda Spinner, Steve Shoemaker, Frank and Mary Lou Omstead, Larry Hulstrom, Max Hatfield, Pat Lambert, Pat Richardson, Bryan Schroeder, Evelyn Cataldo, Judi Allison, Ron Passage, Floyd George

Fliers: They have been revamped, but there was a discussion about the future need for “of the Tri Cities” to be on them.

Responsibilities: Linda passed around job responsibility information sheets.

Dealers are essentially all in place. We will have eleven dealers.

Chairpersons are as follows:

Advertising: Larry and possibly Jane Moore

Building Layout: Floyd and Norm Massey

Silent Auction: Jerry Sorensen

Hospitality Room: Loretta Massey and Mary Lou Omstead

Camping: Norm Massey.

Displays: Evelyn Cataldo and Max Hatfield

Demonstrations: Mary Lou and Jerry Johnson, and Carol Cimolino.

Tickets and Door Prizes: Pat Richardson and Pat Harmon

Geode Cracking: Dom Cataldo (if we have hollow geodes) We will ask Don Snyder to get some when he is in El Paso, TX.

Tailgating: Linda Spinner and Dom Cataldo

Set Up and Take Down: Greg Silvan-Dave will ask. (We are still not certain, since Dave wasn't at the meeting.)

Day Security: Mary Lou has called and we will have security in place.

Night Security: Don Snyder and John Weed

John Day Fossil Beds Display? We will check with Jane.

Library Displays: The Georges are taking care of one; Omsteads will do Grandview and Sunnyside. We are not certain if there will be any other displays.

Signs: All members can be responsible for this. We need an A-Frame type for in front of Don Snyder's daughter's shop and possibly one for the front of the building and on the silent auction and junior tables.

Food Service: The fairground now has a prosecuting attorney taking care of contracts. Each vendor must have a million dollar liability. Our insurance will cover this. The food vendor must have five million dollar liability coverage. The vendor we asked doesn't have this much and the cost would be his profit, so we have a question about the food vendor. In a worst-case scenario, we can fall back on the restaurant at the racetrack.

Friday Lunch and Dinner: Evelyn Cataldo and Judi Allison

Cases: Max is completing new ones and revamping old ones. He will let us know when to get together again to help. We will also rework the liners and electrical parts. Max will check on having the metal angles fabricated for the light braces.

Flyers need to be sent to Richardson's at the Gingko Gem Shop and Beaman's Rock Shop in Yakima.

Polishing success

I have had relatively good success polishing soft stones (such as gypsum) by stretching a double layer of nylon pantyhose over a felt polishing disk (duct tape on the back to hold it) and using cerium oxide in a watery mix. You have to be careful not to apply too much pressure or the stone will catch on the stretched fabric.

Kreigh Tomaszewski

Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club Board Minutes

Monday, February 18, 2008

Present: Evelyn Cataldo, Steve Shoemaker, Larry Hulstrom, Pat Lambert, Max Hatfield, Mary Lou and Frank Omstead, Ron Passage, Floyd George, Judi Allison, Bryan Schroeder
Old Business

Club History: Leona asked for assistance getting the materials for the club history. Floyd and Ron will help.

501C3 Non-profit status: Ron reported that we might not need to file. He will follow up with the person who wrote the article.

Saw Oil: The cost has been researched and Ralph Eichner is authorized to order a barrel of Dioala from Sun Pacific and bill it to the club. Members will pay \$8.00 a gallon. If a pump is needed, both Cataldos and Max have one. (Max will research a more environmentally friendly type of lubricant and bring the information to the club.)

Membership: There is only one member that Pat was not able to reach for verification of continued membership.

New Business:

BBQ Grill: Kevin Newcomb had brought up at the regular meeting the possibility of the club buying a couple of grills. Evelyn suggested that we research the cost of renting a large one. We then wouldn't have a storage issue. Floyd will check with Bennett's and/or Columbia Industries.

Other: Ron had been looking for a small 3-inch metal swivel, which he eventually found (with help) at Kennewick Builders Hardware. Mary Lou suggested the possibility of mini meetings before the regular meetings, with an initial one being on how to set up a display case. We decided that we could add that to the March program which will be "sharing your favorite rock with a picture or picture rock or jasper. Larry consented to put together a presentation.

Bus Field Trip: We talked about the possibility of having another bus field trip. Some suggestions were the Burke Museum in Seattle, Republic fossil area and John Day Fossil Beds. We will solicit ideas from the membership.

March Board and Show Meetings: March 17th, 6:30-show, 7:30-board
Secretary, Judi Allison

TOPAZ

Topaz has been used for a long time. Topaz is the birthstone for November. It is an orthorhombic fluorosilicate of aluminum. Topaz comes in a variety of colors: blue, pink, orange, red to violet-red, various shades of yellow and colorless.

Most of the topaz sold today is blue, due primarily to irradiation and thermal treatments. The most valuable topaz has been called "precious topaz" or "imperial topaz". These terms refer to stones with sherry-red, deep pink and reddish-orange colors. The use of the term "imperial" started during the 19th century with the discovery of pink topaz in Russia.

Today colorless topaz is irradiated with gamma rays to produce a brownish to greenish color. This material is then heat treated to yield a nice blue color. It is not possible to distinguish the natural blue material from the irradiated stones. Dark blue topaz can be produced by neutron irradiation; however the use of neutrons will activate the material. Such material must sit for a while to let the radioactivity decay to acceptable levels.

Topaz continued

So, where does one find topaz? The best material, imperial topaz, comes from Brazil in the state of Minas Gerais in a region called Ouro Preto. Rough material in the size of 3 to 10 carats can be obtained for \$10 to \$15 per carat. Larger material gets quite expensive. Blue material costs \$1 to \$3 per carat in the rough.

There are two notable topaz localities in the United States. Topaz Mountain is located on the southwest end of the Thomas Range in Jaub County, Utah. The nicest crystals are a light sherry and well terminated. The other location is about 10 miles east of Mason, Texas.

Some of the finest mineral crystal specimens are in the Natural History Museum in Houston, Texas.

Some very large stones have been cut from Topaz. The most notable one to people in our area is the “American Golden Topaz” which weighs 22,892.5 carats. It was cut by Leon Agee of Spokane (Leon is a dealer at our annual Spring Show) and now resides in the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. At the time this stone was cut it was, the largest faceted topaz.

The largest one now is a 35,000 carat champagne colored stone cut by Buzz Gray. There is also a 34,650 carat light blue topaz.

A regional group of faceters formed a group called “The Dare Devil Faceters”. Members were Dallas Hales, Cal Miller, Ed Romack, Dick Glisman, Cliff Jackson and Carl Unruh. They specialized in cutting large stones. Their largest cut stone is called “The Lady”; it is smoky quartz and it weighs in at 44,472 carats.



A large blue topaz crystal is at the top of this picture and an imperial topaz is directly below.



A nice blue topaz cut is shown that weighs 5000 carats.

Submitted by Jerry Johnson

LAKESIDE GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON

THE GEODE is the official monthly bulletin of the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. Regular meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month (except July & December) at The Banner Bank, 203 West First Ave., Kennewick, WA. The purpose of the club is to promote activities of mutual interest for collecting and displaying of gems and minerals. All correspondence should be addressed to LAKESIDE GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC., PO Box 6652, Kennewick, WA. 99336-0603. Permission is granted to reprint articles from THE GEODE, provided that the appropriate credit is given.

The editor email address is:
lakesidegemandmineral@yahoo.com

The club website is www.lsgmc.org

Dues: Effective for Year 2008

Annual Membership: \$15.00 per family OR \$10.00 per person OR \$3.00 per Junior Club member
The Geode (subscription only): \$5.00 (restrictions apply)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: Ron Passage 967-5189

Vice President: Steve Shoemaker 545-0522

Secretary: Judi Allison 541-922-6284

Treasurer: Heather Moon

Director: Max Hatfield

Director: Evelyn Cataldo 628-0170

Past President: Ralph Eichner 582-9017

Contacts:

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Federation: Larry Hulstrom 783-6210

Junior Club Leaders: Amy Coleman & Maria Weiss

Junior Club advisor: Leona George 783-4262

Steve Shoemaker 545-0522

COMMITTEES:

Adopt-A-Highway: Cyndy Sharer

Door Prizes & Speakers Gifts: Marvin Barger

Field Trip: Rhea Bowerly, Mickey Madden, Heather Moon

Historian: Leona George

Website: Doug Staudt, Larry Hulstrom

Membership: Pat Lambert

Program: Jane Moore, Chris Sorensen, Judi Allison, Bryan Schroeder

Refreshments: Pat Richardson

Sunshine: Pat Harmon

WSMC Delegates: Jerry & Chris Sorensen

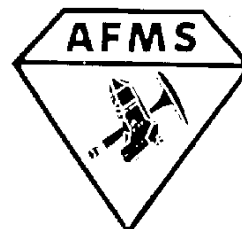
LIFE MEMBERS: Floyd & Leona George

AFFILIATIONS:

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) <http://www.amfed.org>

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) <http://www.amfed.org/nfms>

Washington State Mineral Council (WSMC) <http://www.mineralcouncil.org/>



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Many bids were made in last year's rock auction during the show.