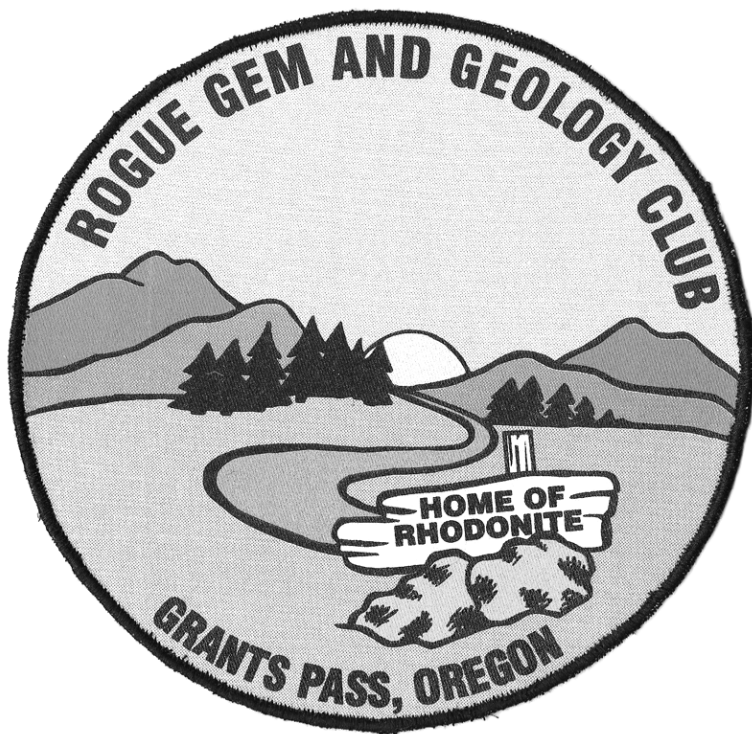


GEMS OF THE ROGUE
PO Box 1224
Grants Pass, OR 97528

**FIRST CLASS MAIL
DATED MATERIAL**



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ROGUE GEM & GEOLOGY CLUB, INC.
"THE FRIENDLY CLUB"

2010/11 OFFICERS	
President Mary Bowers — 541-479-1045	Vice-President Dick Bowman — 541-472-9609
Treasurer Jan Patrick — 541-476-9174	Secretary Jan Arnold — 541-862-8715
Sergeant-At-Arms Mary Blankenship — 541-862-2989	
COMMITTEE HEADS	
Ways & Means Fair Sales Linda Pullen — 541-476-1712 Trish Hepburn — 479-1488 Fair Workshop Barbara Catania — 541-582-3248	Show Chairperson Mary Bowers — 541-479-1045 Co-Chairperson OPEN
	Club Claims John Hudick — 541-472-8585
	Librarian, Historian & Club Photographer Bonita Spencer — 541-476-6980
Shop Foreman Wally Coleman — 541-471-3337	Hospitality Janet Sessions — 541-855-1461 Mary Blankenship
Web Master David Theilbar — 541-476-6553	Goodwill Ambassadors Bernie & Winifred Paris — 541-276-1865 cell
Membership Jan Arnold — 541-862-8715	American Land Access Association Liaison Bill Patrick
Editor Jim Hawkins — 541-479-7271 (cjhawk@charter.net) Helpers: Carol Hawkins, Mary Bowers & Mary Blankenship	Instructors <u>Silver</u> — Carl Matschke — 541-479-1764 <u>Faceting</u> — Bernie Paris — 541-276-1865 cell <u>Cab Making</u> — Bob Forster — 541-474-6982 <u>Wire Wrap</u> — Terry Cosby — 541-582-2983 <u>Geology</u> — Harry Smedes — 541-472-1119
Programs Gary Ruehling — 541-660-6894	Parliamentarian Dick Bowman — 541-472-9609
Equipment and Grounds Dick Marsh — 541-474-3246	Refreshments Orley Ringering
Field Trips Roy Lichtenstein, Bill Patrick & Jim Hawkins	Auctioneer & Evening Workshop Gary Ruehling — 541-660-6894

<u>GENERAL CLUB INFORMATION</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the Rogue Gem & Geology Club is to foster healthful fellowship among its members while pursuing the activities and knowledge of the earth sciences, and to serve the community by introducing its young people and adults to the wonders of the mineral world. • Regular meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at the Fruitdale Grange, 960 Rogue River Hwy., Grants Pass. Meetings begin at 7:30, and Guest are always welcome. • Members are entitled to use the equipment and join in the classes that are available at the clubhouse located at 1003 Isham, Grants Pass. • A one-day field-trip is held each month on the second Saturday or Sunday following the club meeting. A once a year extended field-trip is usually held each June. • Membership dues of \$20.00 per year per (immediate) family include the bulletin, "Gems of the Rogue" and are payable at the general meeting. Individual junior (youth ages 12-18) membership dues are \$7.00 per year. • Non-Member subscription to the bulletin is \$15.00 per year. Send subscriptions to P.O. Box 1224, Grants Pass, OR 97528. We exchange bulletins with other clubs at no charge. • Deadline to submit articles in the bulletin is the 2nd Wednesday of the month. • Permission to reprint material from the bulletin is granted provided due credit is given. <p style="text-align: center;">Visit our Website at — www.roguegemandgeology.com</p>

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES — JUNE 1, 2011

Meeting was called to order by acting President Dick Bowman at 7:30 pm. Pledge to the flag was lead by Mary Blankenship.

Selection Committee: Mary Blankenship reported that the selection committee recommends that Mary Bowers be appointed as Interim President, and Jan Arnold as Interim Secretary.

Roy Lichtenstein made a motion that we accept the selection committee's recommendation.

Carl Durham seconded the motion. Motion passed

Mary Bowers took over as control of the meeting.

Elections : In July, the same Selection Committee will meet to nominate people for the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant at Arms. Voting will be held in August and installation will be in September.

Committees : It was suggested that instead of having committee heads we should have co-chairs for the positions. The hope being that more people would volunteer for committees if the job wasn't so large. There is a sign up list for people who would like to volunteer as fill-in's for the various officers and committee chairs, when they are unable to attend to their duties.

Program : Gary Ruehling invited people to share information about the upcoming McDermitt trip and it's wealth of rock hunting possibilities.

McDermitt : Roy Lichtenstein is leading a caravan to McDermitt for those who like to travel in a group. They will be leaving the corner of 9th and G at 8:00 am on Saturday June 18th. Tentative schedule for McDermitt:

Sunday : Cordero Mine (Candy Store), town thundereggs, Blue Mountain jasper and the hot springs.

Monday : The loop

Tuesday: Zimmerman ranch and beyond— Potluck this evening at Cottonwood Creek

Wednesday: Reservation eggs

There is also a possibility of looking for a ghost town one day.

Field Trip July: The July field trip will be July 9th to the Agate Desert in the White City area **has been postponed**. The fields at the Denman Wildlife area are covered with tall grasses and have not been rototilled, making the collection of material next to impossible. *See page 10 for this month's destination.*

Ways and Means : Barbra Catania reported they still have a need of tumbled rocks. Let's get those tumblers going.

Workshop : Wally Coleman reported that one saw is down and Dick Marsh is making the parts to repair it. He suggests that the useful life of the equipment is about gone and we need to start looking for more modern replacements. Barbra Catania reported that Frank who sells us our saw oil is reporting some people are having trouble with the bio-diesel we are using. It is breaking down the rubber parts of the saw. Dick Marsh stated that the fumes are so toxic people are having to wear masks when cutting and it is wearing out the roller bearings. Wally Coleman requested we start looking at alternative oils.

Claims : John Hudick sent a report on the May 21st filed trip to the Rhodonite claim. 41 people participated in the rock draw.

They came from Roseburg and Medford as well as our own members. He wanted to thank all those who prepped the claim for the field trip.

ALA : Bill Patrick passed out an article about a field trip the Federation took in which they had 3 destinations but they were shut out of 2 of the destinations by the Forest Service. He requested that people write your elected officials about the necessity of public access to public lands. Write to your senators, representative and your county commissioners.

Show: Mary Bowers reported that we need to develop a committee to take over the show if she is to consider running for President.

Fair : Fair dates are August 16 to 20th. Set up will be the 15th and take down the 21st. Sign up sheets are available at the meetings.

Membership: Jan Arnold is doing both membership and the Secretary position . Is anyone willing to volunteer for membership.

Hospitality: Janet Sessions reported we have 69 members and 6 guests tonight. Jim Ward won the guest prize. The half cash was won by Roy Lichtenstein and the donation prize by Terry Cosby.

Picnic : Picnic will be September 17th at Merlin Park.

Shop Night : The shop is open the 2nd and 4th Thursday from 5 to 8 pm. More people need to start availing themselves of this opportunity for it to continue. There will be a beaded sphere class June 9th at the open shop. There will also be a class July 14th where making stone beaded flowers will be taught.

T-Shirts and vests: Mary Bowers reported that she is going to be ordering T-shirts and vests. Shirts will be charcoal and the vests teal. Contact Mary if you want a specific kind of T, such as long sleeve, v-neck or children's sizes and she will try and accommodate you. If you are interested in a vest she is taking orders. The order will be going in soon so get your order in.

Business: Roy Lichtenstein made a motion that the club donate \$1000.00 to the Josephine County Fair to help their fund raising effort. Both Richard Arnold and Wally Coleman seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Motion passed.

Announcements: Silver's rock give away was GREAT! Club member sales next month.

Rock of the Month: Rocks located in places with the letter " M" were shown by members.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Jan Arnold

BOARD MEETING MINUTES—JUNE 8, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Bowers at 1:20 PM.

Treasurer: Jan Patrick gave the Treasurer's report.

Procedural: Robert's Rules of Order will be the process our club will use regarding motions and keeping order. Dick Bowman made a motion: When a motion and vote are taken at a general meeting, the Board will take that vote under advisement when deciding how to vote on an issue. Wally Coleman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Claims: It was suggested that we form a Claims committee to review our collection policies. Mary will ask for volunteers at the general meeting.

Sales: Linda Pullen reported that members are cleaning the upstairs and pricing products for the fair and arranging everything so it will be easier when packing for the fair. She also requested that Mary ask for donations of things club members are making to be sold at the fair for club income.

Mary Blankenship reported that she has obtained quite a few of the rockhound stickers from the Old Timer's Club. They also have patches and pins. Jan Arnold made a motion that Mary Blankenship order pins and patches from the Old Timer's Club. Dick Bowman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Shop: Wally Coleman reported that one of the saw blades we were saving for the fair had to be used in the shop. It might be necessary to order another saw blade before the fair. Also, he is still investigating oil for the saws. Richardson Ranch is using Chevron Superla White # 7 (food grade) but it costs \$17 per gallon. He asked that he have the Board's permission to keep using the oil we now have in inventory while researching other alternatives. The Board agreed.

Wally suggested we have a work party to organize the rocks in the yard and clean up the shop. Tentative date will be July 23 at 9:00 am. There will be a sign sheet at the general meeting. *Food will be provided so let's all get there and help!*

Field Trips: Jim Hawkins and Mary Blankenship are arranging the July field trip to Agate Desert in White City (*Postponed*). Bill Patrick reported that at present they have a Field Trip Committee of 3 people: Roy Lichtenstein, Bill Patrick and Jim Hawkins. The August field trip we are hoping to go to look for soapstone. Jim Hawkins has a copy of a field trip release form. He will make copies and we will have people fill them out at McDermitt and all future club field trips.

We need donations of sunstones to use at the April Rock Show to give out to kids. If you have, or are going to Plush for sunstones, please consider donating small chips. The Dust Devil Mine donated two educational bags of sunstones, but most are much larger (1/2"+) than what are normally used. So, please help if you can.

Bulletin: The 3rd Wednesday of the month is the deadline for all information to be put in the Bulletin. Please send to Jim Hawkins, and if the information is an email attachment, please send it in Word 2002 or older version, or MS Wordpad. Thank you. Also, if you send photos, please send them in your best image quality and JPEG format. It was suggested that everyone send Jim the names of club members and what they have done (donated items or done something special for the club) so we can publicly thank them.

Officers: Nominating committee will meet Tuesday June 14th at 1:00.

Business: Jan Arnold stated the rock hammer needs another bit and spark plugs. Also we need some primer cord. Mary Blankenship made a motion: That we give Richard Arnold permission to buy a rock hammer bit, spark plugs and primer cord. Linda Pullen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The board discussed on how to best help the fairgrounds. Mary Bowers will contact "Friends of the Fair" and get information from them, towards this goal.

Meeting adjourned 3:10 pm.

Submitted by: Jan Arnold

SEE INSIDE STONES

See inside stones before faceting by immersing them in oil of cinnamon or oil of cassia. These are sold in most drug stores. Their refractive index is near that of most gemstones, so surface irregularities of the stones will vanish and you can see flaws and inclusions.

Santa Ana Rock & Mineral Club

PRESIDENT'S NEWS—SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS—ADS

Message from the President

We had a great turn out for the beaded sphere class at the clubhouse on Thursday evening!! We will begin working on the beaded bouquet center piece for the rock food table on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in July. Come on down and learn how to make beginning and advanced beaded flowers. Supply lists will be at the July meeting. Those of you who missed the beaded sphere or anyone wanting a refresher are welcome to come down on Thursday's too!

By the time you are reading this we will all be back from McDermitt! I'm sure we will have great stories to share with you and wonderful rocks to brag about at the July meeting. Also at the July meeting, the nominating committee will be announcing their candidates for club officers and then ask for nominations from the floor. Voting will take place at the August meeting and installation of officers in September.

The next field trip will be July 9th to the Soapstone collection area here in Grants Pass. Members can make their own way out to the site from 9am-Noon. Proprietor Dustin Stutzman will be on-hand to assist members. The material will cost \$1/pound for the soapstone. **See the directions and instructions on page 10.**

We will be having a clubhouse clean up day on July 23rd starting at 9am. The goal is to clean in the shop area and organize/sort the rock in the yard. The club will provide chicken and drinks for lunch. Come on down and lend a hand.

I want to thank everyone that signed up to volunteer for the fair! I was pleasantly surprised to see so many names this far ahead of the fair!!! Remember we need people to put in display cases too. Members need to start thinking about entries for the pet rock contest. I also want to thank everyone that signed up for other volunteer positions. There are still a lot of positions that need to be filled. If you have any questions about what a position entails just ask.

I will be placing an order for more club T-shirts (with and without pockets just like before) after the July meeting. We are changing the color to charcoal gray. If anyone wants something special for example long sleeve, V-neck, child's size etc please let me know at the meeting. I will also be placing an order for Teal club vests. If you want one please try on the sample vests at the meeting and sign up for the size you want. The vests tend to run small so make sure you try them on! I will also be looking into club hats. I will have more information by the meeting and we can see if there is enough interest to order them.

Some "Pun" ishment

King Ozymandias of Assyria was running low on cash after years of war with the Hittites. His last great possession was the Star of the Euphrates, the most valuable diamond in the ancient world. Desperate, he went to Croesus, the pawnbroker, to ask for a loan.

Croesus said, "I'll give you 100,000 dinars for it". "But I paid a million dinars for it," the King protested. "Don't you know who I am? I am the king!" Croesus replied, "When you wish to pawn a Star, makes no difference who you are."

(From Delvings , VIA Palomar Gem 3/2010)

CLC SERVICES

Alan Sowles Stump Grinding
541-761-8896 Field Mowing
Tractor Services

HOPPER ROCK SHOP
541-479-6343

hopper@budget.net
hopperrockshop.com
Rocks • Tumblers • Grit & Polish
Other Lapidary Supplies

\$5 off Tumblers for club members

FROM THE CHAIRS' & ODDS-N-ENDS

...and from Gary,
program chair

Thanks to all who provided information and
samples on

McDerrrrmitt.

Anyone who "HITS the Candystore" please bring
something for "show-n-tell". Stories are also
welcomed.

For July we will make up that program from April. I
was able to re-schedule the presentation on "Library
of the Future". We will learn all about the resources
available to us. Very informative!!!

ROCK OF THE MONTH

Start looking through that mountain of material
for those rocks from the "N" locations.

WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS

Sue Andrecht
Richard & Tricia Caulkins
Stuart & Claudine Chrupalo
Lance & Cianna Corley
Rachael Drago
Mary Keene
Buck & Judy Lovett
Jerry & Peggy McInnes
Greg Meyers
Don Pearson
Cody & Nola Rambo
LeeRoy & Erin Rambo
Diana Ross
Terry Scheler
David Snyder
Dave & Maureen Williams

MINERAL & GEM CLUB SHOWS COMING SOON

July 2011

14-16—NYSSA, OREGON: Show, "Thunderegg Days"; Nyssa Chamber of Commerce; Nyssa Elementary School Grounds, 105 Main St.; Thu. 10-9, Fri. 10-9, Sat. 10-9; free admission; daily rock tours, search for thunder eggs, moss agate, petrified wood, or pink plume, rock and gem vendors; contact Susan Barton, 105 Main St., Nyssa, OR 97913, (541) 372-3091; e-mail: nyssachamber@nyssachamber.com; Web site: www.nyssachamber.com

15-17—REEDSPORT, OREGON: Annual show; Lower Umpqua Gem & Lapidary Society; Reedsport Community Bldg., 451 Winchester Ave.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; free admission; dealers, demonstrators, Spin the Wheel, silent auction, door prizes, displays, raffle, gems, minerals, opals, turquoise, crystals, faceted gems, silversmithing, fossils, lapidary tools and equipment; contact Bill Hendrickson, 100 River Bend Rd., Space 17, Reedsport, OR 97467, (541) 271-6816

16-17—MOOSE LAKE, MINNESOTA: 42nd annual show, "Agate Days"; Carlton County Gem & Mineral Club, Moose Lake Area Chamber of Commerce; Moose Lake High School gym and parking lot, 413 Birch Ave.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; free admission; dealers, Lake Superior agate, cutting materials, specimens, crystal groups, fossils, gems, jewelry, lapidary equipment, rough rock tailgaters, door prizes, field info, Agate Stampede Sat.; contact Al Hyopponen, 4902 Jean Duluth Rd., Duluth, MN 55804, (218) 525-7766; e-mail: willow73@cpinternet.com

23-24—KALISPELL, MONTANA: Annual show; Northwest Montana Rock Chucks; Flathead County Fair Grounds, Grandstand Bldg., 265 N. Meridian Rd.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$1; demonstrations, silent auction, door prizes, minerals, jewelry, kids' activities; contact Milah Gano, P.O. Box 433, Lakeside, MT 59922, (406) 844-3560; e-mail: mallards_g@hotmail.com

23-24—TENINO, WASHINGTON: 17th annual show, "Rock & Gem Rendez-Vous"; Washington Agate & Mineral Society, Tenino Rock Cruisers; Parkside Elementary School, Stage St. South (I-5 exit 88); Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-5; free admission; dealers, demonstrations, door prizes, spinning wheel, displays, during the Oregon Trail Days Celebration; contact Daniel De Boer, 5107 Brenner Rd. NW, Olympia, WA 98502; e-mail: keylock1@live.com

CALENDAR, EVENTS & REMINDERS

July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 	5 Faceting Class 1-4pm	6 Clubhouse Workshop 9am-12 General Meeting 7:30 Club Members Sales	7	8	9 Club Fieldtrip To LOCAL SOAPSTONE STORAGE AREA
10	11	12 Faceting Class 1-4pm	13 Clubhouse Workshop 9am-12 Board Meeting 1-4p	14 Open Workshop 5-8pm	15	16
17	18	19 Faceting Class 1-4pm	20 Clubhouse Workshop 9am-12	21	22	23 Clubhouse Clean-up Day 9am-Finished (See President's Message page 5)
24/31	25	26 Faceting Class 1-4pm	27 Clubhouse Workshop 9am-12	28 Open Workshop 5-8pm	29	30

Upcoming Club Events

Wednesday—the 6th—7:30pm
General Club Meeting
Club Members Sales preceding meeting

July 9th, from 9am –Noon
Fieldtrip: Southern Oregon Soapstone Storage Area See pages
 10 for details.
 Bring sample soapstone items to the general meeting for show-n-
 tell.

July 23rd– **Clubhouse Clean-up Day** (See Calendar)

Club Reminders

*Every 2nd and 4th Thursday of
 month there is open shop from 5-8pm.
 This month on the 14th, Mary Bowers will be
 demonstrating how to make beaded flowers for the
 rock food table, and assisting members with theirs.
 Also, Gary Ruehling and Jim Hawkins are there
 on open shop nights to help members learn about
 processes, equipment use, and help with member's
 individual projects.*

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHSTONES

JULY

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

2—Bernie Paris	15—Chelsa Knowles
2—Rick Spencer	16—Nola Rambo
3—Linda Pollard	18—Kirk Bales
3—Lewis Swisher	18—Emily DiGennaro
4—Jerry Sessions	21—Jan Patrick
5—Rose Saenz	23—Mike Hepburn
8—Mandy Rucker	28—Dorie Brazille
9—Kathy Ashton	29—Dwight Smith
9—Bob Forster	30—Andie Springer
11—Bob Jacobsen	31—Carl Matschke
12—Gene Chojnacki	31—Greg Meyers
12—Jim Spencer	31—Janet Sessions
14—Eva Shippy	



JULY

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

1—Wally & Nancy Coleman
3—Richard & Tricia Caulkins
7—Laurie & Robert Asplin
10—Doug & Linda Pullen
14—Ken & Nancy Watson
19—Jim & Libby Spencer
23—Larry & Patti Cole

JULY BIRTHSTONE

THE RUBY

July's birthstone is the most valued gemstone in the world. Known as the king of precious stones, gem quality rubies are extremely rare. Rubies are more valuable than top quality colorless diamonds.

Ruby comes from the corundum family. It is a crystalline form of aluminum oxide. Corundum colors range from white, gray, brown to black, blue, and deep red. The deep red corundum is ruby. All the others are considered to be sapphire. The red color of ruby ranges from orange-red to purplish red. Ruby has a hardness of nine. It has no cleavage, and the crystal form is hexagonal. They can be found in a tapering prismatic form, pyramidal and tabular.

Rubies are primarily found in Thailand, Ceylon, and Burma. They also come from Sri Lanka, Kenya, Tanzania, Vietnam, and a few other countries. In the United States, they have been found in North Carolina, and have also been found in other areas in small quantities.

Ruby is usually faceted into an oval shape, but is also attractive in other shapes including heart. Some rubies have six-point stars in them, and are usually then cut into a smooth domed cabochon. Rubies are frequently heat treated to enhance their color. This eliminates purple and brown overtones, leaving a beautiful red. It is an accepted practice.

So, those of you that have your birthday in July, enjoy your elegant gemstone, the ruby!

By Jonathan North— *of the Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society*

Other Ruby Facts: Ruby is one of the most expensive gems, large rubies being rarer than comparable diamonds. The largest cuttable ruby weighed 400 carat and was found in Burma. Many rubies are an important part of royal insignia, (badge or symbol of honor), and other famous jewelry. The Bohemian St. Wenzel's crown (Prague), for instance, holds a non-faceted ruby of about 250 carat. The coloring agent is chrome, sometimes iron. The color is very stable against light and normal temperatures. The color distribution is often uneven, in stripes and spots, a so-called "pigeon's blood", pure red with a hint of blue. Cut ruby luster can reach that of a diamond. Often the ruby is clouded by inclusions. These are not classified as faults, but as evidence to the genuineness of the ruby.

BENCH TIPS & FUN STUFF

SHOP HINTS**CLEANING WITH ACID – HANDLE WITH CARE!**

Cleaning Your Specimens Wash to carefully remove dirt. If soaking in acids or other solutions, try an inferior specimen first. When working with acids, remember the three A's—Always Add the Acid to the water. Keep your solution fairly clean for best results. Oxalic acid is useful for rust stains; muriatic acid, (dilute hydrochloric acid), for removing hematite stains; and hydrochloric acid is the best for removing black manganese stains. When using any of these solutions, wear protective clothing, goggles and rubber gloves. Household bleach works well for removing many stains but never mix bleach and acid. The results could be tragic. *Always best to test on an unwanted sample.*

- Barite: 30% hydrochloric acid solution.
- Beryl: Any acid solution may be used.
- Petrified Wood: Household bleach or oxalic acid.
- Bornite: Overnight in oxalic acid.
- Carbonated Minerals: If your specimen will not come clean in bleach, use a weak solution of oxalic acid.
- Chalcopyrite: Soak over night in a solution of oxalic acid, 2 oz. to a quart of water, or under close watch in hydrochloric acid.
- Copper: Nitric or hydrochloric acid.
- Epidote: Quick dip in nitric or sulphuric acid.
- Fluorite: Hydrochloric or muriatic acid, 1 part acid to 10 parts water.
- Galena: Soak overnight in oxalic acid. Wash well.
- Gold: Ammonium bifluoride.
- Graphite: Try any acid.
- Hornblende (microlite, scapolite, tourmaline): Any acid except hydrofluoric,
- Iron (labradorite): Concentrated sulphuric acid.
- Marcasite: Overnight in oxalic acid solution or a very quick dip in hydrochloric acid, or it may be washed in ammonia water.
- Minerals: Hydrofluoric or sulphuric acid solution.
- Orthoclase: Most acids except aqua regia.
- Pyrite: Overnight in oxalic acid solution or a quick dip in hydrochloric acid. Rinse in ammonia water.
- Silver: 1 oz. baking soda, 1 oz. salt dissolved in 2 quarts warm water in an aluminum container.
- Sulphide minerals: Acetic acid solution. If this doesn't work, try hydrochloric acid.

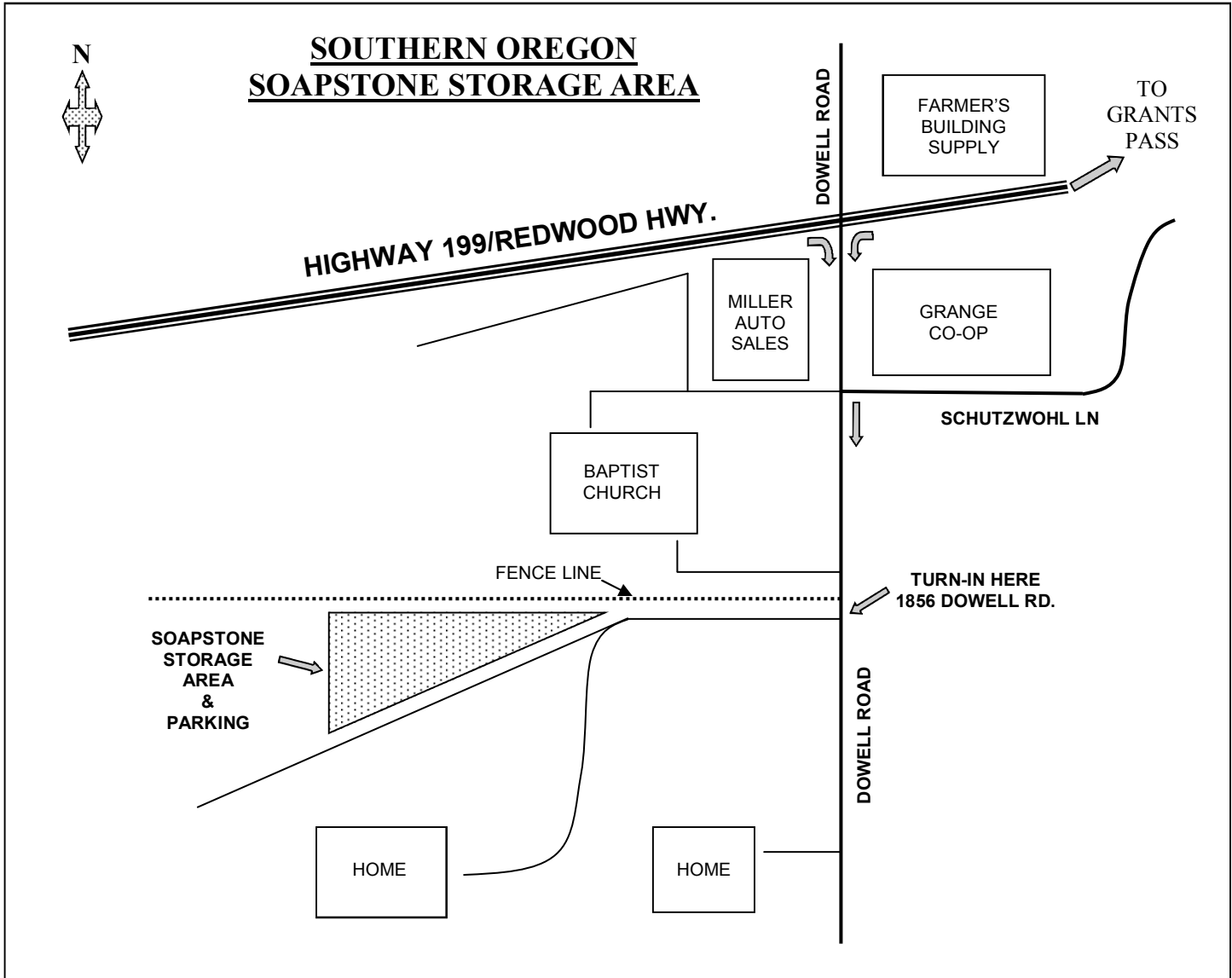
From Pick & Pack, via The Tumble Rumble 5/08

Factoids**ELEVEN WAYS TO BECOME A FOSSIL**

- Freezing** -- This rare creature has suffered a minimum of change. His arteries may still contain dried blood, his stomach undigested food. Most common is the Ice Age mammoth of Siberia and Alaska.
- Drying or Desiccation** -- If these organisms were thoroughly dried, they can be of high quality. Best known are the camels and sloth found in our Southwest caves.
- Wax and Asphalt** -- Natural paraffin makes an excellent preservative, as proved by specimens found in Polish mines. The most famous asphalt fossils are still embedded in the La Brea Tar Pits in California.
- Simple Burial** -- English bogs are famous for their buried forest. Sand dollars, sea urchins, and mollusks have been preserved by this method for up to 75 million years.
- Carbonization** -- Incomplete decay of volatile substances leaves carbon behind, sometimes reducing organisms to paper thin layers of shiny black film that reveal much detail.
- Petrification** -- Our common stony fossils got that way by premineralization, the replacement of the structure by dissolved minerals, or secondary replacement, such as when limey fossils are dissolved and replaced by silica.
- Molds and Casts**-- Natural molds in sediment remain after organisms decay. Sandstone beds reveal molds of shells and trees, and the finest molds are Northern European amber, which has perfectly preserved the forms of insects.
- Imprints** -- Sandstone, shale and tuff reveal external molds of very thin objects such as leaves. Best known of these are the Illinois Coal Age plant imprints.
- Tracks, Trails, Burrows** -- Dinosaur prints are the most famous of these. But Nebraska's "Devil's Corkscrew" once housed a beaver who dug an eight foot spiral hole.
- Castings and Coprolites** -- Ancient worms swallowed sand to help digest small organisms: they regurgitated these casings. Coprolite is a polite word for petrified "dung."
- Gastroliths** -- Many ancient reptiles ground their food with these stones (as do our modern fowl). The stones are rounded, smooth, and even polished at times. Also known as "Gizzard Stones."

From The Matrix, Via the Tumble Rumble 11/07

FIELDTRIPS & OTHER THINGS OF INTEREST



Club Members there has been a change in plans. The fieldtrip to the Agate Desert (Denman Wildlife Area) in White City has been postponed. At present the field areas have not been rototilled to make possible the collecting of agate, pet wood and jasper.

Arrangements have been made for club members to visit the Southern Oregon Soapstone storage area here in Grants Pass. Proprietor Dustin Stutzman is offering the opportunity for members to come out on July 9th, from 9am-Noon to select and purchase soapstone material for \$1 per pound. Dustin has indicated that he also has other unique minerals that members may be interested in seeing.

DIRECTIONS: *See map above.* Turn south on Dowell Road off of Redwood Highway and travel to the third driveway beyond Miller Auto Sales. The driveway is just after the fence line south of the Baptist Church parking lot. Drive to the storage area near the dump truck. There should be plenty of parking space for a large group. **Hope to see you there!**