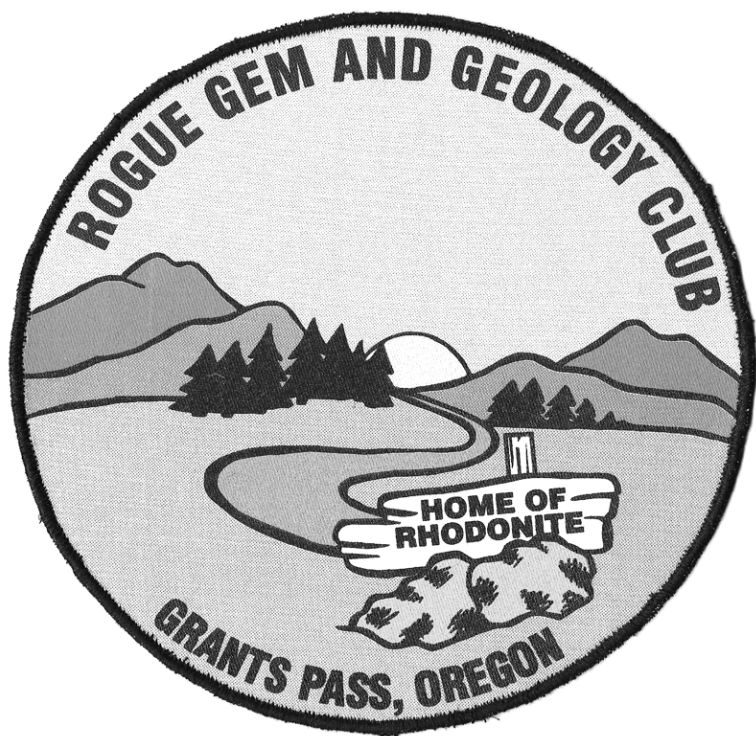


GEMS OF THE ROGUE  
PO Box 1224  
Grants Pass, OR 97528

FIRST CLASS MAIL  
DATED MATERIAL



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

<b>2010/11 OFFICERS</b>	
<b>President</b> Mary Bowers — 541-479-1045	<b>Vice-President</b> Dick Bowman — 541-472-9609
<b>Treasurer</b> Jan Patrick — 541-476-9174	<b>Secretary</b> Jan Arnold — 541-862-8715
<b>Sergeant-At-Arms</b> Mary Blankenship — 541-862-2989	
<b>COMMITTEE HEADS</b>	
<b>Ways &amp; Means</b> <b>Fair Sales</b> Linda Pullen — 541-476-1712 Trish Hepburn — 479-1488 <b>Fair Workshop</b> Barbara Catania — 541-582-3248	<b>Show Chairperson</b> Mary Bowers — 541-479-1045 <b>Co-Chairperson-OPEN</b>
	<b>Club Claims</b> John Hudick — 541-472-8585
	<b>Librarian, Historian &amp; Club Photographer</b> Bonita Spencer — 541-476-6980 Andie Springer — 541-441-4908
<b>Shop Foreman</b> Wally Coleman — 541-471-3337	<b>Hospitality</b> Janet Sessions — 541-855-1461 Laurel Krencik & Winifred Paris
<b>Web Master</b> David Theilbar — 541-476-6553	<b>Goodwill Ambassadors</b> Bernie & Winifred Paris — 541-276-1865 cell
<b>Membership</b> Jan Arnold — 541-862-8715	<b>American Land Access Association Liaison</b> Bill Patrick
<b>Editor</b> Jim Hawkins — 541-441-1734 (cjhawk@charter.net) <b>Helpers:</b> Carol Hawkins, Mary Bowers & Mary Blankenship	<b>Instructors</b> <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
<b>Programs</b> Gary Ruehling — 541-660-6894	<b>Parliamentarian</b> Dick Bowman — 541-472-9609
<b>Equipment and Grounds</b> Dick Marsh — 541-474-3246	<b>Refreshments</b> Orley Ringering — 541-582-1893
<b>Field Trips</b> Roy Lichtenstein, Bill Patrick & Jim Hawkins	<b>Auctioneer &amp; Evening Workshop</b> Gary Ruehling — 541-660-6894

<b><u>GENERAL CLUB INFORMATION</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The purpose of the Rogue Gem &amp; 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Members are entitled to use the equipment and join in the classes that are available at the clubhouse located at 1003 Isham, Grants Pass.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Deadline to submit articles in the bulletin is the 2nd Wednesday of the month.</li> <li>• Permission to reprint material from the bulletin is granted provided due credit is given.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Visit our Website at — <a href="http://www.roguegemandgeology.com">www.roguegemandgeology.com</a></b></p>

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES — SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Bowers at 7:31 p.m. Mary Blankenship led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Program** : Gary Ruehling called on Nancy Coleman to introduce the speaker from the Grants Pass Museum of Art. Bill Lowe gave a presentation on the Art Museum. Thank you Bill and Nancy. The slate of Officers for the 2011-2012 year was presented:

*Mary Bowers, President*

*Linda Pullen, Vice President*

*Jan Arnold, Secretary*

*Jan Patrick, Treasurer*

*Mary Blankenship, Sergeant at Arms*

Mary Blankenship made a motion that we elect the slate of officers by Viva Voce vote. Carl Durham seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Jan Patrick presented the Treasurer's Report.

The minutes were approved as written.

**Fair Report:** Wally Coleman won the pet rock contest. Club income was down several hundred from last year but the fair was still a successful venture. Thank you to all those members who donated their time to man the booth. We couldn't have done it without you. Next year before we reserve the booth we need to check out: proposed entrances to the booth, new layout, a quieter location, and who the booth's neighbors will be. Gary Ruehling thanked all the people who put in cases for the fair. The quality of the cases was magnificent.

Several of our member's won prizes for items they displayed at the fair including Wally Coleman and Richard Arnold.

**Ways and Means:** Barbra Catania reported that she is going through the boxes left from the wheel of fortune and tallying the remaining favors so they can plan what they need to make this year.

**Workshop:** Wally Coleman reported that he believes he has found some cutting oil with help from Jim Hawkins and Mary Bowers.

**Claims:** John Hudick reported that he needs to file the waiver of maintenance fee and the affidavit of assessment work by December 30<sup>th</sup>. He also has a proposed copy of the updated claims rules. It will

be reviewed by the board and finalized next week. On 10/18 there will be a field trip to the club's serpentine claim out of Sunny Valley. There will be maps to the claim at the next general meeting. John is also working on the by-laws and is requesting help from older members who helped draft them to find out the intent of the founders of the club.

**Membership:** *Dues are due. Please pay as soon as possible.*

**Hospitality:** There were 70 members and 12 guest present. Winifred Paris won the members prize, Steve Wright won the guest prize, Carol Williams won the donation prize and Caitlyn Rogers won the child's prize. Al Bullard won the cash prize.

**Show and Tell:** Beads from Marlene Brown's class, Herkimer Diamonds, Skull Springs Thundereggs and Petosky stones were among the show and tell.

**Field Trip:** Field trip for September will be to Zinc Creek up the South Umpqua. Group will be leaving Ray's in Merlin on the 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

**Announcements:** Thursday night class this week will be mesh wrapped marbles. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September the class will be pine needle silver castings. We need to know how many are attending so we can order enough silver. The cost will be between \$10 and \$20 depending on the size of your casting.

Saturday 9/10 is Roxy Ann's Tailgate and Museum Auction day from 9 to 2 in the museum parking lot. Bring a salad or dessert. Harold and Connie Silver are providing the rest. There will be an auction of museum duplicates and older pieces at 2:30.

R. G. & G's picnic will be September 17<sup>th</sup> at Merlin Memorial Park. It starts at 11. Club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns and condiments. Members need to bring either a side dish or dessert. T shirts are available for sale.

Buchanan Thunderegg trip is the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> of September.

Member's shared "P" rocks.

September 14<sup>th</sup> is the Board Meeting.

Minutes submitted by Jan Arnold

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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES      SEPTEMBER 14, 2011**


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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Bowers at 1:08.

**Picnic :** Picnic is Saturday at 11:00 at Merlin Memorial Park. Silver's will bring the auction paddles.

**Shop:** Wally reported they have ordered new saw oil. After we receive it we will try to find a buyer for the 50 gallons we still have of the other saw oil. We are going to need to sand and repaint the saws after we switch to the new oil. Wally also reported he has been cleaning the cage and getting rid of unusable material.

Jan Arnold reported that Michelle Sutcliffe has volunteered to takeover membership. Thank You Michelle.

Bernie Paris reported the faceting machine is repaired and ready to be used.

**Club Claims:** John Hudick presented the revised rules for mining and collecting at club claims. A few more suggestions were made and he will make the corrections and bring to another meeting.

**Other Business:** Mary Blankenship informed the board that we need to be looking for a regular horse trailer as opposed to a 5<sup>th</sup> wheel trailer because so few members have fifth wheel balls. Joe and Bill Wisswell have a large rhodonite boulder in their front yard that they would like the club to break up with the jackhammer and haul to the club house. Mary Blankenship made a motion that we use the rock hammer to break up the rhodonite at the Wissell's for club use. Wally Coleman seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mary Blankenship asked for input on ordering specimen boxes. The consensus was to order 200 boxes, 2 inches x 2 inches.

Mary Bowers reported she is starting a lost and found box for all the things left after meetings. It will be downstairs at the clubhouse.

Mary Bowers also reported she has started a Facebook page. Look for the Rogue Gem and Geology page next time you are on Facebook.

Meeting adjourned 2:55  
Minutes submitted by Jan Arnold

**Thank You! Thank You!**  
**Thank You!!!!**

Jack and Jackie Abendroth for cooking burgers and dogs at the picnic

The Cosby kids for entertaining us at the picnic  
Jan Arnold for doing all the shopping for the picnic

Carl Durham for donating wooden bowls

Mary Blankenship for all the details she follows up on (buying silver, psychic fair, checking on grange contract, the list goes on....)

Michelle Sutcliffe for volunteering to be in charge of membership

Everyone who did research on what saw coolant to use

And anyone we forgot...you know who you are;-)



**"Must you always bring the biggest one you can find?"**

via Golden Spike News 10/00

## PRESIDENT'S NEWS—SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS—ADS

**Message from the President**

Wow, did we have a great day for a picnic or what! The club made \$229 on the silent auction and \$777.75 on the oral auction!!! Thank you to everyone that brought auction items. It's that kind of participation that makes this club so great!

I started a lost and found box in the garage at the clubhouse. It was either that or I was going to have to get a bigger truck to carry all the stuff around. If you are missing a slotted spoon, tongs, a blue Crater Lake coffee cup lost at the picnic or if you are missing your pet rock, chicken track, or a fossil rock left the fair they are in the lost and found. Items not claimed by December will go into the bingo prizes. The club has started supplying bottled water and soda at the clubhouse (in the garage next to the trim saw) for members to purchase. There is an on your honor can for people to pay. Water is 25¢ and soda is 40¢. Please use the new large black trash can located outside the door to recycle your returnable bottles and cans. If anyone else is interested in purchasing a t-shirt they are located upstairs at the clubhouse now. The club will be having a 16 foot table at the Psychic fair on Nov. 5 at the fairgrounds. We will be having a sign up sheet at the meeting asking for help with set up, running the booth, and take down. We would appreciate donations of items and ideas for items to make that we can sell at this type of venue. If you have any questions/ideas see Mary Blankenship. I would like to extend a big thank you to Michelle Sutcliffe for volunteering to be in charge of membership!!

We continue to have a great time at the clubhouse on Thursday nights. The pine needle

casting was an adventure, we had some trial and error but managed to make it work. Thanks to everyone for the group effort! The following classes will be offered at the clubhouse Thursday nights:

**Oct. 13-- Soapstone carving** with Jim Hawkins. Bring the following items: your soapstone, if you have any wood files and rasps, small hand saws, wet/dry sandpaper in grits of 220 and 600, pail or plastic pan to work in water, and a worn-out oven mitt/glove you can damage. *Some equipment will be available.* If you have a computer checkout the following website for ideas and the general process - [www.soapstonesculpture.com](http://www.soapstonesculpture.com). Last month's newsletter has the working with soapstone process on pages 9 and 10.

**Oct. 27-- Silver Wire soldered pendant.** If you have them bring a plumber's torch w/propane bottle, solder, wire cutters, a file, and tweezers. If you don't have the items we will have a limited number available for members to share. This project requires about 6 inches of 18ga sterling silver wire. You can bring your own if you have it or we will have some at the class to purchase. (see samples at the meeting)

**Nov. 10-- Kumihimo Japanese Braiding** The class will include making your own braiding disk and making a couple of short samples of braids. Bring scissors and yarn. Some braiding material will be available to purchase for a small fee of a dollar or two to cover costs.

See you all soon,  
Mary

**CLC SERVICES**

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

**HOPPER ROCK SHOP**  
**541-479-6343**

[hopper@budget.net](mailto:hopper@budget.net)  
[hopperrockshop.com](http://hopperrockshop.com)  
Rocks • Tumblers • Grit & Polish  
Other Lapidary Supplies

\$5 off Tumblers for club members

## FROM THE CHAIRS' &amp; ODDS-N-ENDS

**...and from Gary, program chair**

Time to "Go Back to School". Bernie Paris has been giving a presentation to "school kids" lets say--for a LONG time.

Now, it's the clubs chance to get the lesson on how important rocks and minerals are with our daily lives.

Note: bring your nickels-- he may have time to share his wealth of knowledge.

Remember Show-n-Tell--Zinc creek ?? Picnic auction?? ... ?? Cedar Mountain Serpentine?? Buchanan Thundereggs??

**ROCK OF THE MONTH**

Gather those stones for the "Q" Locations.

**WELCOME**  
**NEW MEMBERS**

Steve Wright  
Tom and MiMi Miller  
Jack A Vivan  
Paulette Neuber  
Michael and Lou Ann Strahan  
Judy Stanley  
Mary Bradley  
Gillian Penquite

*Thanks for joining our club! We hope you will find many rewards and many friends among those who share our wonderful hobby!*

**MINERAL & GEM CLUB SHOWS COMING SOON****October 2011**

**7-9—SEQUIM, WASHINGTON:** Show, "Nature's Treasurers"; Clallam County Gem & Mineral Association; Boys & Girls Club, 400 W. Fir St.; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-2:30; contact Terry Stockman, PO Box 98, Sequim, WA 98382; e-mail: terlin@wavecable.com; or Foster Thompson; e-mail: fostert@olypen.com

**8-9—MARYSVILLE, WASHINGTON:** 37th annual show, "Rocktoberfest"; Marysville Rock & Gem Club; Totem Middle School Cafeteria, 7th St. and State Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; contact Bill Moser, (425) 238-8222; e-mail: billjj@comcast.net; or George Haage, (425) 339-2272; e-mail: haag@frontier.net

**15-16—ANDERSON, CALIFORNIA:** Annual show; Shasta Gem & Mineral Society, Shasta District Fair Grounds, 1890 Briggs St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; silent auction, door prizes, demonstrations, kids' activities, Geode cutting, dealers, gems, fossils, beads, finished jewelry, equipment; contact: Sara Fenske, 2040 Gentry Way, Red Bluff, CA 96080, (530) 528-2651; e-mail: sarafenske@yahoo.com

**15-16—PLACERVILLE, CALIFORNIA:** Annual show; El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society; El Dorado County Fairgrounds, 100 Placerville Dr.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, children 12 and under free; dealers, displays, minerals, gems, jewelry, beads, fossils, petrified wood, amber, opals, meteorites, geodes, carvings, tools, books, lapidary and jewelry-making demonstrations, amber exhibit and presentations, free rocks and activities for kids; contact Karen Newlin, (530) 676-2472; e-mail: info@rockandgemshow.org; Web site: www.rockandgemshow.org

**22-23—CANBY, OREGON:** Show, "Rock & Gem Heaven in 2011"; Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club; Clackamas County Fairgrounds, 694 NE 4th Ave.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; dealers, demonstrations, raffle, silent auction, Kids' Korner, door prizes, fluorescent show, displays, slabs; contact Rick Mauer, (503) 691-6395; e-mail: tallericardo@juno.com; or Bea Settle, (503) 631-3128; e-mail: rockhound@clackamettegem.org

**CHECK OUT— <http://www.rockngem.com/showdates/> — for many other dates and locations.**

**"PUN" ISHMENT**

Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather

frail and with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him (ahem) a super callused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.

Via The AFMS Newsletter 9/2003

## CALENDAR, EVENTS &amp; REMINDERS

**October 2011**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Faceting Class 1-4pm	5 Clubhouse Workshop 9am-12 Silver Class 1-4p General Meeting 7:30 Club Member Sales H-L Refreshments	6	7	8 Fieldtrip to the Club's Cedar Mountain Serpentine Claim See page 10 for details
9	10	11 Faceting Class 1-4pm	12 Clubhouse Workshop 9am-12 Silver Class 1-4p Board Meeting 1-4p	13 Open Workshop 5-8pm Soapstone—See page 5	14	15
16	17	18 Faceting Class 1-4pm	19 Clubhouse Workshop 9am-12 Silver Class 1-4p	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25 Faceting Class 1-4pm	26 Clubhouse Workshop 9am-12 Silver Class 1-4p	27 Open Workshop 5-8pm Silver Wire Soldered Pendants	28	29

**Upcoming Club Events****Fieldtrip**

To the Club's Cedar Mountain Serpentine  
Mine—See page 10 for details

**At The Club's General Meeting**

Please set your cell phone to vibrate or off,  
and respect those who are speaking so all of us  
can here what is being said. Thank You!

**Club Reminders****General Meeting-Refreshments**

Last names **H-L** bring refreshments.

**OPEN SHOP**

2nd/4th Thursdays—5-8pm

Oct. 13th, learn different ways to carve and finish  
Soapstone

Oct. 27th, learn how to make a Silver Wire soldered  
pendant.

**See page 5, President's message for the details.**

## BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHSTONES

### OCTOBER HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

3—Larry Pesterfield	23—Connie Daley
4—Doris Cline	23—Ken Watson
5—John Hudick	24—Jesse Cosby
10—Summer Christmani	25—Seth Doane
13—Ed Wineteer	25—Linda Pullen
16—Jeanne Santoyo	26—Margrit Bryant
16—Don Scott	27—Deanna Copeland
17—Linda George	27—Emma Keller
20—Gail Forster	29—Rich Allender
22—Bea Thielbar	29—Karen Carr
23—Jan Arnold	29—Jim Hawkins
23—Wally Coleman	30—Linda Harger



### OCTOBER HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

9—Mike & Trish Hepburn
13—Bill & Gail Forster
19—Doug & Pam Sasseen
22—Jim & Carol Hawkins
23—Richard & Jan Arnold

## OCTOBER BIRTHSTONE

October is another month with two birthstone choices – *Tourmaline* and *Opal*.

*Tourmaline* has become a favorite gemstone among jewelry designer, and gem collectors the world over. Since it is available in a wide variety of colors, it is ideally suited to almost anyone's taste. Tourmaline also is known for displaying several colors in the same gemstone. These *bi-color* or *tri-color* gems are formed in many combinations; gemstones with clear color distinctions are highly prized. One multi-color variety is known as *watermelon tourmaline*, and features green, pink, and white colors bands; to resemble its namesake, the gemstone is cut into thin slices having a pink center, white ring, and green edge. Tourmaline is found in many localities including Brazil, Afghanistan, East Africa, and the USA.

The name *opal* derives from the Greek *Opallos*, meaning "to see a change (of color)." Opals range in color from milky white to black with flashes of yellow, orange, green, red, and blue. An opal's beauty is the product of contrast between its color play and its background. Opal is a formation of non-crystalline silica gel that seeped into crevices in the sedimentary strata. Through time and nature's heating and molding processes, the gel hardened into the form of opals. The opal is composed of particles closely packed in spherical arrangements. When packed together in a regular pattern, a three-dimensional array of spaces are created that give opal its radiance.

### **Other Tourmaline and Opal Facts/Beliefs**

This gemstone actually contains up to 30% water, so it must be protected from heat or harsh chemicals, both of which will cause drying and may lead to cracking and loss of iridescence. Opal must also be guarded from blows, since it is relatively soft and breaks easily.

Most of the world's Opal deposits are found in Southern Australia. Other sources of this gemstone are Brazil, Mexico, Czechoslovakia and Nevada. Quality Opal is very expensive, made more so by the caution that must be exercised in cutting, polishing and setting it into jewelry.

A gift of Opal is symbolic of faithfulness and confidence. And the powerful energy radiating from this fiery gemstone will surely illuminate any occasion!

An alternate birthstone for October, Pink Tourmaline has the seemingly magical property of pyroelectricity. Scientifically speaking, this means that when heated, the gem takes on a static electric charge, making it capable of attracting lightweight objects. No wonder this gemstone was revered for its mystical properties centuries ago! Considered the "stone of the muse," it was believed to stimulate the creative process of its wearer. Pink varieties of Tourmaline range in color from pastel pink to ruby red and are mined in Brazil, Afghanistan, Burma, and India. A gift of this stone is symbolic of hope.

*From the internet - <http://www.about-birthstones.com>*



## BENCH TIPS & FUN STUFF

### HOW TO SURVIVE A ROCKY MARRIAGE

*By Mrs. Jacqueline Bule, via the Lapidary Journal*

It's the classic story: Joe is a rockhound. Mary trudges along behind him, becomes interested in spite of herself... and before you know it another dedicated husband-wife team takes to the hills in search of geological goodies. Does it always have to happen that way? NO! Not if you gals have a sneaky nature and are willing to follow a few tips on survival. You will have to develop the fine art of tagging along without getting involved. It is indeed possible to be married to a rockhound and remain firmly non-rock as well as firmly still-married!

Tag along on collecting trips, togetherness is the name of the game. You can be a good sport without being hounded into a hobby you never even knew existed until a few years ago. Iron resolve is needed. Stand firm on those darling new hiking boots... you'll *have to stand fire*, have you ever tried walking in those things? You'll swear you've taken root!

Don't expect a collecting trip to take you anywhere near a posh resort area... there are plush ski resorts, exclusive tennis clubs, luxury hotels... but they are all somewhere else. It's easy for your friends to chirp excitedly about Mexico City and Miami, but how can you sound enthusiastic about places with names like Yogo Gulch and Barstow? One of the starker facts about rockhounding life is that there are NO posh field trips. Dig out the old jeans you painted the kitchen in, that new knit is going to have to wait for better days.

It's only fair that you help out on these trips a little, learn to be a good navigator. Booklets with detailed directions to off-highway collecting areas sometimes have complicated instructions, such as ".7 miles to dead tree, turn right at open mine shaft (dear lord) and proceed to large rock in the shape of a dancing bear with right paw pointing to faint tracks leading off to the left". The books are usually very helpful, but the first time you find yourself up to your hubcaps in "typical desert road", you will be tempted to toss it out of the window. (Note: if the maps say "sandy but passable," STOP! Forget it! Back up! Do not be ashamed to resort to threats, tantrums or any other persuasion you have in your little bag of tricks.) Sooner or later your very own expert will stop driving and announce that you have arrived. This is bound to be somewhat of a surprise because the area will look exactly like the last ten miles looked. How do they know? Well you've arrived, so wander around and enjoy the scenery but DO NOT LOOK DOWN! With your luck, Sweetie, you'll find a twenty pound museum specimen and be hooked for life!

If this is your first trip, take a few minutes to watch Dearest as he goes about the great hunt. He will pick up a rock, stare at it for a moment, and without taking his eyes from it he will fumble for his rock hammer. The hammer will be hopelessly entangled in the webbing of his surplus army belt. Enjoy the humor of the situation... it may be the only time you smile all day. Finally, he will chip at the rock and then he'll lick it, or maybe spit on it, and hold it to the light. All over the world rockhounds are lick-spitting pieces of rough; a strange behavioral pattern surpassed

only, it is said, by the nesting habits of the Great Crested Grebe. Right about now is a good time to wander back to wherever you've stashed the lunch. It is important to keep up your strength, especially if you are in the desert. Any desert. Sometime in the next thirty minutes you will become either broiled to a turn, frozen, sand-blasted, snowed-on, dirt-covered, bone-bruised, or ankle-sprained. You will be stared at by occasional lizards, annoyed by the only fly in fifty miles, and severely jolted by at least one sonic boom. Sonic booms always occur just as you find a reasonably private powder-room behind a bush and are, so to speak, vulnerable.

Be on full-alert at all times for any sign of rattlesnakes and creepy crawlies. We are told they won't hurt us if we don't bother them... and if you believe that you'll believe "sandy but passable"! The desert also abounds in little rock shops. A nice change of pace. Their rocks have already been picked up and dug out. The nicer shops have plastic spray bottles available for moistening samples. If not, you're back to the old lick and/or spit routine.

Upon returning home, head for the shower and dive into your pink ruffles. This must be done before the ritual of washing and sorting the rocks begins. Floating about all powdered and cuddly you couldn't possibly be expected to help, could you? Item: HE cleans up the mess, HE takes the rocks to the garage; if you do it once you're sunk. Be careful, allow only the smallest suggestion of a smile when asked to admire a dripping specimen. Of course, it's permissible to dust all those polished slabs that take up every square inch of space in the house, and once in a while you may allow yourself to add water to that automatic juggler thing in the sun porch if no one else is around to do it. Never, never identify any rock correctly, or better yet, mispronounce it.

When the conversation turns to rocks, and it will, discuss only the emerald. Now there's a rock! Beautiful, gleaming, magical emeralds. EXPENSIVE! The conversation will immediately turn to the high cost of living, taxes, and the repair bill on the furnace. How are you doing? Feeling more confident? Who says you have to embrace old what's his name's rocks? Just embrace old what's his name once in while. (Editor's Note: More than once in a while) Tag along. But don't get involved.

The foregoing suggestions, carefully followed, should help you to remain non-rock. There is, however, one huge pitfall; children. Children take to rockhounding avidly. Their bright little eyes can spot gem quality agate at three hundred yards. They love being sand-blasted and dirt-covered. Their enthusiasm, fed by fresh air and a continuous stream of cheese sandwiches, is unsinkable. They ask questions. So, you have to help them find the answers, don't you? You have to encourage their curiosity, right? Mothers are for helping, aren't they? That crackling noise is your iron bound resolve falling in ruins at your feet. The old ball game is, as they say, over.

Rocks! Drat! Well, if you can't lick 'em, you'll just have to carry a plastic spray bottle with you.... Hi Rocky, welcome to the club. (NOTE: PLEASE DON'T LICK ROCKS!)

## FIELDTRIPS &amp; OTHER THINGS OF INTEREST

**Fieldtrip Reminder**

This Month's fieldtrip is to the Cedar Mountain serpentine claim for high quality serpentine, on Oct. 8th.

We will leave from the Merlin exit Ray's Market parking lot at 9am. **Maps will be available at the general meeting.**

The roads into the site can be driven with 2-wheel drive vehicles, but ground clearance is recommended because of potholes. Once at the site you will climb up a steep hillside for about a hundred yards. So, wear appropriate clothing and footwear. There is always the potential for storms. Be Prepared. We will likely have to do some digging and splitting of rock, so bring equipment (hammers, chisels, pry bars and knee pads.)

**Note:** *If you collected here before bring your samples of finished work to the general meeting for Show-n-Tell.*

**Martha vs. Maxine**

Martha's Way - Stuff a miniature marshmallow in the bottom of a sugar cone to prevent ice cream drips.

Maxine's Way - Just suck the ice cream out of the bottom of the cone, for Pete's sake! You are probably lying on the couch with your feet up eating it, anyway!

Martha's Way - To keep potatoes from budding, place an apple in the bag with the potatoes.

Maxine's Way - Buy instant mashed potato mix and keep it in the pantry for up to a year.

Martha's Way - If you accidentally over-salt a dish while it's still cooking, drop in a peeled potato, and it will absorb the excess salt for an instant "fix".

Maxine's Way - If you over-salt a dish while you are cooking, that's too bad. Please recite with me the real woman's motto: "I made it and you will eat it and I don't care how bad it tastes!"

**SOMEMORE "PUN" ISHMENT**

A three-legged dog walks into a saloon in the Old West. He slides up to the bar and announces; "I'm looking for the man who shot my paw".

There was the person who sent ten different puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. Unfortunately, no pun in ten did.

Via The AFMS Newsletter 9/2003

**SO YOU THINK YOU HAVE TROUBLES!**

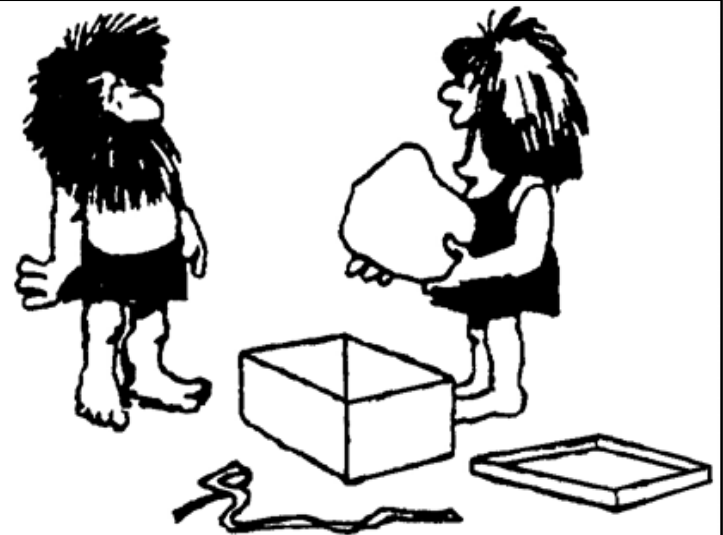
Here is the sad tale of a man who wanted to sell a rock saw. It was reported that he advertised it in the classified section of a Canadian newspaper. To put it mildly, he had problems when his ad appeared:

Monday: For sale. Sam Jones has one rock saw for sale. Phone after 7 pm 968. Ask for Mrs. Kelly who lives with him cheap.

Tuesday: We regret having made an error in Mr. Jones' ad which appeared yesterday. It should have read, "For sale. Sam Jones has one rock saw for sale cheap. Phone 968 and ask for Mrs. Kelly who lives with him after 7 pm."

Wednesday: Mr. Jones informs us that he has received several annoying phone calls because of an error which appeared in his classified ad. His ad is corrected: "For sale. Sam Jones has one rock saw for sale, cheap. Phone 968 after 7 pm and ask for Mrs. Kelly who loves him."

Thursday: NOTICE! I, Sam Jones, have no rock saw for sale. I smashed it. Don't call 968. The phone has been taken out. I have not been carrying on with Mrs. Kelly. Until yesterday, she was my housekeeper.



*"How Sweet... My Birthstone!"*

From Rock Chips 1/99