

Monthly Bulletin of the  
West Seattle Rock Club, Inc.  
Seattle, Washington



Website:

<http://www.westseattlerockclub.org>

Our Club:

Practices the Rockhound Code of Ethics

Meetings:

Visitors are always welcome!



## **WEST SEATTLE PETROGLYPHS**

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**FEBRUARY 2014**

**(AMETHYST)**



**WEST SEATTLE ROCK CLUB, INC.**

Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 16145, Seattle, WA 98116

The purpose of this Club is to promote the study and enjoyment of the Lapidary Arts with good Rock-hounding and good fellowship; and to further education and lapidary skills for all; to conduct field trips for exploration and collection of minerals, gems, rocks and fossils; to promote shows and displays; to publish a monthly periodical known as *West Seattle PETROGLYPHS* relating to club activities.

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**OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2014):**

President	Bo Jeffers	(206) 248-1475
Vice President	Merryl Jeffers	(206) 248-1475
Secretary	Diane Christensen	(206) 938-0790
Treasurer	Audrey Vogelpohl	(206) 932-3292
Federation Director	Audrey Vogelpohl	(206) 932-3292
Director at Large	Ken Schmidt	(206) 932-3626
Mineral Council Reps	Leroy Christensen	(206) 938-0790
Seattle Regional Reps	Lyle Vogelpohl	(206) 932-3292
Newsletter - Editor	Mike Wall	(206) 935-4953
Current Past President	Michael O'Clair	(206) 938-1541

\*\*\*\*\*

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS (2014):**

2014 Show Co-Chairpersons	Ken Schmidt	(206) 932-3626
	Diane Christensen	(206) 938-0790
Programs	<Vice President>	<Vice President>
Refreshments/Hospitality	Janet Francisco	(206) 940-8344
Historian	<Open>	<Open>
Field Trips	<Open>	<Open>
Webmaster	Donn Ullery	(206) 633-0721

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**AFFILIATED WITH:**

Northwest Federation & American Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
 Seattle Regional Gem and Mineral Show Committee  
 Washington State Mineral Council  
 ALAA – American Lands Access Association

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Meetings are held on the Fourth Wednesday of each month,  
 except for November which is the **THIRD** Wednesday and no meetings in July and December

The meetings are held in Adams Hall of the *Tibbetts United Methodist Church*

3940 41st S.W. (corner of 41st S.W. and S.W. Andover Street) Seattle, WA

6:00 PM – Junior Meeting 7:00 PM – Adult Meeting

Dues are: \$20.00 first year (including name badge), then: \$10.00 per adult member per year  
 or \$15.00 for 2 adults in same family, \$3.00 per junior member per year

**VISITORS ARE INVITED AND ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ALL MEETINGS**

All material in this Bulletin may be reprinted if properly credited - Exchange Bulletins are most welcome.

**CLUB CALENDAR**

February 26, 2014

**Junior Meeting (6:00 pm)****Program:** Rock Special Effects**General Meeting (7:00 pm)****Program:** Planning Your Case – Jon Spunaugle**Show & Tell:** Seahawk Rocks (Blue & Green Colored Rocks)**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Sorry – Not Available at Press Time

**JUNIOR PROGRAM**

February Greetings, Rock Stars!

We are looking forward to seeing all the Juniors who are active members this year! This month, the Junior Rockhounds will be exploring the ins and outs of Special Effects as they relate to the badge of the same name. Magnetism, triboluminescence, birefringence, chatoyancy and many more wonderful multi-syllabic descriptors will headline our exploration on the 4th Wednesday of the month - February 26th, at 6:00 pm, Tibbett's Church. You'll be able to check off at least a couple of the minimum three requirements for this badge, so it's a meeting you'll not want to miss!

WSRC's General meeting will follow at 7:00 pm. The evening's topic promises to be a good one, particularly for those looking for fresh ideas and pointers on how to create a display for our upcoming Rock and Gem show (April 26-27). Maybe a Junior might want to consider Special Effects as a theme for their case?! Just a thought!

In closing, we have a few badges we need to present to those Juniors who have earned them, too!

Best wishes,  
April & Crew

**WHAT'S INSIDE**

<b>Club Calendar</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>President's Message</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Junior Program</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>What's Inside</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>WSRC – Member News</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>General Meeting Minutes – Jan</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>What Do Gold and Diamonds</b>	
<b>Have in Common?</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Dues are Due</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>A Brief History ...</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Refreshments – February</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Why Do We Display?</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>WSRC – Kid's Corner</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Shop Tips</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Field Trips</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Rock Shows</b>	<b>10</b>

**WSRC – MEMBER NEWS****February Birthdays**

Amethyst - a stone that vibrates with creativity, tranquility and understanding. It is said that slipping an amethyst stone under your pillow while you sleep you will enjoy "sweet dreams".

- 2 - Delila Higuera
- 8 - Logan Higuera

**March Birthdays**

Aquamarine - a bluish-green transparent beryl known as being a treasured stone of courage and fortitude; a stone of diplomacy, easing conflict and rekindling friendship, giving you the quiet strength of the ocean.

- 5 - Donn Ullery
- 8 - Bella Francisco
- 10 - Meredith Hailey
- 14 - JoAnn Churchman

**Welcome to new members:**

- Emily Brune & son Otto Bisno (in college w/ interest in geology)
- Christina Gilman & daughter Caitlyn Gilman (a junior member)

**WEST SEATTLE ROCK CLUB – GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

January 22, 2014

**Business**

Club President Michael O'Clair called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests.

Bowie Hichens reported that there were 18 adult members, 4 junior members and 5 guests present. The guests were introduced, and Brooke Wagner, Keir Hichens and Dennis Overman won the door prizes. Michael informed the guests if they would like to join the Club, they can get an application from Audrey Vogelpohl.

Michael asked if there were any additions or changes to the last minutes printed in the Petroglyphs, since there none, the minutes will remain as printed.

Audrey introduced new member, Author Ortiz. He received a name badge, a membership card and a WSRC pin.

Audrey then gave the Treasurer's report. She compared the money in the account at the end of December from the beginning of the year in January. The NW Federation dues (\$3.50 per adult member and \$1 per junior) will be paid as well as the fees to the American Federation which is 75 cents per person).

Michael then went over upcoming shows and field trips. He also mentioned that there is a lecture about Seattle rocks on Friday, 1-31-2014 at Meany Hall at 7 pm. Please pre-register if you plan on attending this lecture.

**Committee News:**

Editor Mike Wall is looking for ads and articles for the Petroglyphs. (The article can be on field trip(s) taken).

Junior Advisor April Hichens said she has some juniors who have earned badges; however, they were not present.

NW Federation Treasurer Lyle Vogelpohl reported that the NW Federation mid-year meeting is from April 26<sup>th</sup> to April 27<sup>th</sup> in Kennewick, WA. The WSRC show is also that same weekend, so Ameritool will not be able to attend our show, but will be at the NW Federation show. Lyle indicated that we will be looking for another dealer.

Communication and Advertising club member Mark Hichens should have the flyers and posters for our show at the next meeting (in February). Junior Member Keir Hichens is going to be working with him.

Federation Director Audrey Vogelpohl indicated that she will be attending the NW Federation mid-year meeting, and that Diane Christensen and Ken Schmidt have volunteered to co-chair the WSRC show. There will be a sign-up sheet at the February meeting.

Audrey also announced that the O'Clair's have donated a projector to the club to use for programs. Thank-you Michael and Lucie.

**Election of Officers**

Michael than introduced the nominees for officers in 2014. The nominees were:

- President: Bo Jeffers
- Vice President: Meryl Jeffers
- Secretary: Diane Christensen
- Treasurer: Audrey Vogelpohl
- Editor: Mike Wall
- Mineral Council Rep: LeRoy Christensen

A motion was made to approve the Board, and it was seconded.

**Show and Tell**

- Lyle Vogelpohl – brought an article by Bob Jones / some pieces of agate collected from Twin Falls to

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Jackpot, NV

- Bo Jeffers – brought numerous pieces of opalite
- Lucie O'Clair – brought carbonite and cinnabar she got at an auction in Kelso
- Mike Wall – brought some calcite and willemite from New Jersey
- Ken Schmidt – brought some fluorite and tumbled rocks to share

Lucie O'Clair won the drawing.

### **Program – Club Birthday**

Audrey then went over the past presidents who have served on the Board. Past presidents who were present included: Lyle Vogelpohl (numerous times), Audrey Vogelpohl (numerous times), David Clausen (numerous times), Ken Schmidt (numerous times) and Michael O'Clair.

Lyle indicated that he has met a lot of people and the club has brought him a lot of pleasure, David said it was fun and he enjoyed the field trips, Michael said it was an honor to have a daughter win prizes. Bo thanked the past presidents and said he wants the meetings to be fun.

The meeting was adjourned and cake and juice were served. Thanks Lyle and Audrey for the treats.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Diane Christensen, WSRC Secretary

## **WHAT DO GOLD AND DIAMONDS HAVE IN COMMON?**

by Celia Tiffany

Diamond (a form of carbon) and gold are both classified as Native Elements on the Periodic Table of Elements: that is they are among the few elements that occur in the Earth's crust in a relatively pure, uncombined form.

Both crystallize in the cubic system.

Both most commonly occur as octahedral crystals.

Large deposits of each are mined in South Africa and in Australia.

Both are highly valued for use in jewelry, science, and industry.

Both have inspired exploration, exploitation and brutal conquests.

Both are outrageously overpriced, but diamonds set in gold remain popular as a pledge of fidelity.

(via *The Tumbler*, 6/10; via *The Quarry*, 4/10, via *Breccia*, 2/10; via *Rollin Rock*, 2/10; via *The Geode*, 9/99)

## **DUES ARE DUE**

Each membership is for the calendar year (Jan 1 through Dec 31). Please remit as soon as possible:

- \$3.00 per junior member;
- \$10.00 per adult member;
- \$15.00 for 2 adults in the same household.

## **A BRIEF HISTORY ...**

as Reported On DesertUsa.com

In 1856, settler Charles Tyson built a fort at the present site of Quartzsite to protect his water supply from attacks by Native Americans. Fort Tyson soon became a stopover on the Ehrenburg-to-Prescott stagecoach route. It had become known as Tyson's Wells by the time the stage stopped running and the town was abandoned.

A small mining boom revitalized the town as Quartzsite in 1897 and it remained thus until 1965, when the Pow Wow Rock, Gem & Mineral Show began the rockhound winter migration to Quartzsite each year. These days, the population can swell to almost a million during January and February as rockhounds, jewelers and vendors, mostly in thousands of RVs, attend the eight major gem and mineral shows.

(via *The Tumbler*, 1/14; via *The Pegmatite*, 12/10)

**REFRESHMENTS -**  
**FEBRUARY**



Please take note if you are on the hook for refreshments this month.

Snacks & Drinks: **Diane & Leroy Christensen**

**SHARE YOUR HOBBY**  
**SHOW YOUR COLLECTION**  
**(WHY DO WE DISPLAY?)**

by George Williams , Tualatin Valley Gem Club

**FOR THE PLEASURE IT BRINGS -**

1. It's satisfying to see our collection attractively set up in a display - we can rightly be very proud of what we show.
2. There is much joy and reward in sharing our collection with others who have similar interests.
3. It's exciting to be an important part of a group project.
4. After working diligently at our hobby we deserve a little praise and we can get this only by sharing.
5. Displaying in a show sets up opportunities to meet other people who have found pleasure in the same interests as you.
6. Sometimes we get a little stale at what we do. Preparing for a show brings new inspiration and rejuvenates your interests.

**BECAUSE IT'S EDUCATION EXPERIENCE -**

1. Arranging a display makes you more critical of your material and challenges you to improve your quality.
2. Planning a display around a theme requires some study and you end up with a greater knowledge of your collection.
3. After fussing over your own display you will look more critically at other exhibits allowing you to profit from others' techniques.

**THE FUN OF NON-COMPETITIVE DISPLAY -**

1. Here you have free reign to follow through any idea you have for an exhibit without any concern for fitting it into the limitations of rules.
2. Try standing beside your exhibit for a time. Be ready to greet strangers as they show an interest in what you have done. You'll exchange some good information and meet some great people.

**ADVANTAGE OF COMPETITIVE DISPLAY -**

1. The rules direct you along certain paths designed to improve your collection.
2. Preparing for competitive exhibit sharpens your critique of your collection.
3. Judging of your display by others considered to excel in a particular field gives you an honest opinion as to the comparative quality of your material. A basis for improvement.
4. You will become much more discerning in your purchase of material or the high grading of your finds.

**ENJOY COMPETITION -**

1. The trophy is a bonus - don't go all out to get one. Instead, display for the educational value it gives to you; the opportunity to evaluate and upgrade your collection.
2. Don't let yourself be embarrassed or disheartened by the judges criticism. The more comment you get the more basis you have for improvement. One of the most dangerous things a judge can do is give you an undeserved high score. Instead of giving the exhibitor inspiration and direction for improvement it gives him a false value of his collection.
3. Try seriously to recognize what the judges are pointing out to you as possibilities for upgrading. Each year some exhibitors feel their exhibit is above criticism. With this attitude they would be so much happier displaying in the non-competitive division.
4. Don't collect only to complete a competitive display. Broaden your collection but use the guidelines for competitive quality in improving your techniques and selection of material.
5. Conversely, don't expect your entire collection to fit into a competitive category. Categories must be quite limited in scope so judging can be done on a comparative basis. You must select carefully from your collection to meet the limitations expressed in the rules for your selected category.
6. Don't forget the judges are human and thus prone to human error and judgement. Be gracious. I know of no case when a judge was intentionally biased, but many times when they have been so accused. Every judge I have known has been most sincere in trying to evaluate every display fairly and with respect and concern for the exhibitor. Respect their integrity and you will profit.

Written by George Williams of the Tualatin Valley Gem Club and Past NFMS President; published *in* the HyGrader March 1976, and distributed by the Society Officers Committee, NFMS.

**WSRC - KID'S CORNER****Building a Mineral Collection:  
What Minerals Should I Collect? (Part 1)**

by Darryl Powell

*“Collecting rocks and minerals often starts with picking up a few pretty crystals, or brightly colored rocks. They might sit on a coffee table or window sill and add an accent to your decor. Then you get interested in what they are and want to attach a name to them. Now you are turning into a rockhound.” -- Kreigh Tomaszewski*

**What is a “mineral collection” and how do I make one?**

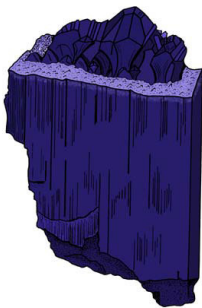
Having a bunch of pretty crystals and mineral specimens and lining them up on your desk or shelf could be called “a collection,” but it is only the beginning! By definition, a collection is, “a group of things gathered together.” So, a pile of crystals on your desk is, by definition, a collection.

**But do you want to be a serious mineral collector?**

Then you need to get ready to work hard and turn that pile of minerals into something truly special. Let me give you a **better definition** for a **mineral collection**:

A “mineral collection” is a carefully gathered group of mineral specimens that have been carefully stored, carefully displayed, carefully labeled and carefully recorded for the sake of future enjoyment and study.

You learned in the January 2013 issue what you need to do to build and maintain a really good collection: number the specimens, keep a record of information about each specimen, carefully and properly store your specimens. But this assumes you have decided exactly what in the field of minerals you want to collect. So, this month, let’s answer another really good question:

**What Minerals Should I Collect?****The Easy Answer: Whatever you like!!!**

This sounds like a really bad answer, but it is actually the best answer to a great question. It is best for you to collect the minerals that you like. But the field of mineralogy has so many choices and so many directions that you could go! What does a mineral collector focus on?

*(Continued on page 8)*

(Continued from page 7)

To get started, we've created a list of some (yes, only some) of the specialties different mineral collectors specialize in. Check these out . . .

- **Native elements** like silver, copper, sulfur, gold, platinum, diamond, carbon...
- **Minerals from a specific chemical group** like sulfides (pyrite, galena, sphalerite, etc.), silicates (quartz, tourmaline, micas, etc.), .....
- **Minerals from a specific crystal system** (cubic, hexagonal, etc.)
- **Minerals from a specific mine or locality** (ex. specimens from the Mapimi mine in Durango, Mexico, or specimens from the Sweet Home mine near Alma, Colorado.)
- **Minerals from a specific state or country** (like Pennsylvania, Arizona, New York or a country like England, Mexico, Peru, etc.)
- **Twinned crystals** - some collectors specialize in twinned crystals only.
- **Single crystals** - some collectors collect only perfect or near-perfect samples of single crystals.
- **Minerals that were owned by other collectors** - some collectors like the history of specimens that were once owned by another collector, especially if that collector was famous and if the specimen has old labels with it! These are called "minerals with a pedigree."
- **Minerals named after people.** (There is at least one collector who collects specimens named after people and autographs and signatures of those people!)
- **Minerals named after places.**
- **Rare minerals.**
- **Micromount specimens** (that is, specimens that are so small they have to be viewed through a binocular microscope).
- **Gemstones** (like tourmaline, topaz, garnet, amethyst, etc.)
- **Specific mineral species.** (For example, some specialize in quartz, others in calcite, others in barite, etc.)
- Minerals collected by digging or purchase during **family trips.**
- **High-quality display specimens.**
- **"Sleepers."** A "sleeper" is a specimen that is very under-priced. You end up paying a very low price for something worth much, much more.
- **One specimen of each mineral species.** These collectors are called "species collectors."

**Do you get the idea? This list could go on and on and on.**

Over time, figure out what branch of mineral collecting is most interesting and rewarding to YOU! Remember, this is YOUR mineral collection and it will be its best when it reflects your interests and personality.

**A word of wisdom for you . . . take your time and grow into a special branch of mineral collecting.**

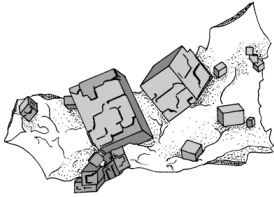
If you are just beginning in the mineral collecting hobby, it would be best to collect the specimens that grab your attention. Don't worry about "does this specimen fit into my

(Continued on page 9)



(Continued from page 8)

theme of \_\_\_\_\_?!" This is exactly what I did when I was young. At one show a galena on dolomite matrix grabbed my attention (I still have it 30 years later and still love it! A drawing of it is pictured here.) At another event, I discovered and purchased a small calcite crystal. Through a mail order dealer I purchased a specimen once owned by Frederick Kunz. After 20 years of collecting, different patterns started to pop out at me. Today, I focus on minerals once owned by important mineral collectors that have their old labels, specimens from the Mapimi mine in Durango, Mexico, and calcites. I also lean toward specimens that simply look good – mostly to me, but hopefully to others as well.



Take your time. You will figure out, probably sooner than later, what minerals really make you happy. And remember, after a long time of having a special focus in mineral collecting, you can always have new interests and start collecting specimens from a different facet (get it?!) of minerals.

### **At all times: Have Fun Collecting Minerals**

### **“High-Grading”**

“High-Grading” is the process of picking out the best specimens a person has and removing those of lesser value. After many years of collecting you will find that you have many specimens that either are lower quality or they are less valuable to you personally. Many collectors carefully remove the specimens that they wish to sell or trade for better specimens. In the end you will have a mineral collection that is higher in quality and will be worth more.

**(See Part 2 Next Month)**

(via *Mini Miners Monthly*, 11/13)

### **SHOP TIPS**

**Editor’s Note:** Shop tips featured in this bulletin have not been evaluated for safety or reliability. Please use caution and common sense when trying out any new idea.



#### **A Cheap Pre-Polish For Tumbling**

The use of pre-polish in tumbling is almost a must. At the very least, use a soap run prior to going into polish. This is a flushing action and will loosen up any grit that you were not able to wash out after your

grinding runs.

(via *The Tumbler*, 2/14; via *The Pegmatite*, 12/08; via *Rock Licker*, 3/98; via *Rock Buster News*, 5/92)

#### **Large Slabs**

A good way to tell how solid a slab might be is to heat it in hot water. The surface will dry immediately. If there are holes or fractures in the slab, every one will soon be lined with water. Mark the lines with a pencil (or sharpie) to orient the slab for your project.

(via *The Tumbler* 2/14; via *The Pegmatite*, 10/10; via *Pick & Pack*, 3/09; from *Pick & Shovel*)

**2014 FIELD TRIPS**

- Mar 15** Marysville Rock & Gem Club Field Trip – Cherry Creek – 9:00 am @ Duvall Safeway – Jasper – tools: Dig, light hard rock tools and wading - contact Ed Lehman wsmced@hotmail.com 425-334-6282 or 425-760-2786
- Apr 12/13** Pow Wow Field Trip – Saddle Mountain – 8:00 am @ Mattawa Boat Launch – Petrified Wood – Dues Required: \$7.50 & \$15 Family - contact Ed Lehman wsmced@hotmail.com 425-334-6282 or 425-760-2786

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See WSMC [http://www.mineralcouncil.org/FieldTrips\\_2014.pdf](http://www.mineralcouncil.org/FieldTrips_2014.pdf) for additional field trips and details

**2014 SHOWS**

- Mar 1** 10am-6pm **East King Co. Rock Club – Annual Show**
- Mar 2** 10am-5pm Pickering Barn, 1730 10th Ave NW, Issaquah, WA
- Mar 7** 10am-6pm **Tualatin Valley Rock and Gem Club – Annual Show**
- Mar 8** 10am-5pm Washington Co. FairPlex, 873 NE 34th Ave, Hillsboro, OR
- Mar 9** 10am-5pm
- Mar 28** 10am-6pm **Rock Rollers Club of Spokane – Annual Show**
- Mar 29** 10am-6pm Spokane County Fair & Expo Center
- Mar 30** 10am-4pm N. 604 Havana, Spokane, WA
- Apr 26** 10am-5pm **West Seattle Rock Club – Annual Show**
- Apr 27** 10am-5pm **Alki Masonic Temple, 4736 40th Ave SW, Seattle, WA**

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See the **Northwest Newsletter** for additional show listings and times.  
 Available online at: [http://www.amfed.org/nfms/documents/NorthwestNewsletter/NW07\\_0813.PDF](http://www.amfed.org/nfms/documents/NorthwestNewsletter/NW07_0813.PDF)



**HOW CAN YOU HELP**



- Your Federation:** Save stamps and give to our club treasurer.
- Your Hobby:** Join ALAA. - Contact Lyle Vogelpohl
- Other:** Volunteer to teach beginners what you are good at.



**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ...**



**Cabbing ...** contact Lyle Vogelpohl ... (206) 932-3292

