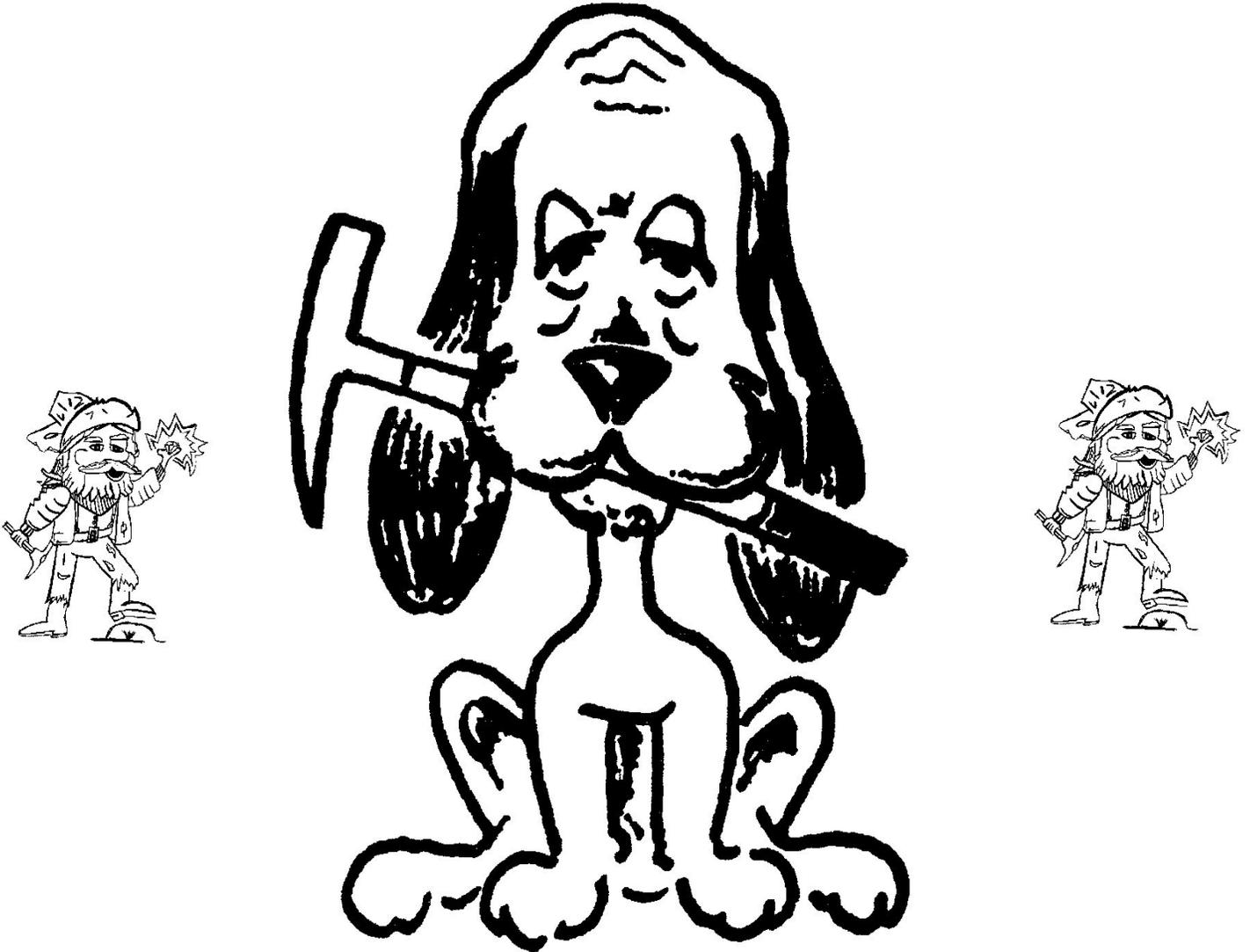


Rock Chip Reporter

SEPT/OCT 2014



Far West Lapidary & Gem Soc. Inc.
P.O. Box 251, Coos Bay, Oregon

State Rock: Thunderegg

Gemstone: Sunstone

Bird: Western Meadowlark

Flower: Oregon Grape

Nickname: Beaver State

Motto: She Flies With Her Own Wings

ROCK CHIP REPORTER
FARWEST LAPIDARY & GEM SOCIETY, INC.
P.O. Box 251, Coos Bay, OR. 97420-0026

The "Rock Chip Reporter" is the official publication of the FARWEST LAPIDARY & GEM SOC. INC... This organization is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Soc.; Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Soc.; Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs. The FARWEST LAPIDARY & GEM SOC. INC. was incorporated August 17, 1962.

2014 OFFICERS

President: Terry Innes 541-396-5722 e-mail: terrinnes@gmail.com
Vice President : Karl Granzow 541-808-4936 e-mail: kg@sueandkarl.com
Secretary: Anita Harris 751-1980 957 Stillwater Coos Bay OR 97420
Treasurer: Judy Henson 572-2257 1421 Spruce St Myrtle Point OR 97458
Board Member: Pat Ames 982-4568 1465 Village Pines Ct, Coos Bay, OR 97420
Board Member: Roger Gary 572-2968 55529 Brady Myrtle Point OR 97458
Board Member: Marty Slechta 759-3610 P.O. Box 301 Lakeside OR 97449
Federation Director: Don Innes 54416 Arago-Fishtrap Rd Myrtle Point OR 97458
Oregon Council: Don Innes email: doninnes.innes20@gmail.com

2014 COMMITTEES

Delegate NWFMS: Roger Gary 541-572-2968
Sunshine: Karyn Ogl 396-5147 1010 N. Juniper Coquille OR 97423
Show Chairman: Don Innes / Terry Innes
Telephone: Sarah Slechta / Glenda Hadden
Field Trips: Roger Gary
Librarian: Veneita Stender
Program Chair Karl Granzow 808-4936 1025 Nye Ct., Lakeside, OR 97449
Workshop: Terry Innes / Karl Granzow
Refreshments: See Sign up Sheet
Bulletin Editor: Sue Granzow 541-808-4934 e-mail: rockchipreporter@gmail.com

MEETINGS: meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the first & third Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Faith Lutheran Church, 2741 Sherman Ave., North Bend, OR., the meeting on the first Tuesday is a business meeting. The meeting on the third Tuesday is a social meeting.

WORK SHOPS

2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at Sherman address---5:30pm to 8:00pm?

DUES: Membership dues are \$15 per year for one; \$20 per year for a couple or family. Dues are due in December. **(However you will do our treasurer a favor if you pay them in November.)**

BULLETIN: The bulletin "Rock Chip Reporter" is mailed free to all members. The aims of this club shall be the study of lapidary, mineralogy, geology and the locating and preserving of mineral Specimens.

We are not responsible for the authenticity of information in articles accepted for publication in this bulletin ,nor are the Opinions expressed herein necessarily those of the editor, officers of the club, or members of the club. Permission to reprint material from this bulletin is given freely provided proper credit is given.

BRING A FRIEND TO A MEETING - VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

WE VALUE NEW MEMBERS

President's Notes

Sep/Oct 2014

Hello everyone! Hope all is well with you all.

I hope those that went to Terry, Montana had a great trip and got a lot of great rock!!! I's like to thank all those that made it to the show for setup and the young ladies for setting up the dinner table, and all those that helped out at the show. Thanks to Doug for working the door raffle and the pictures that he took of the show. He did a great job at this for all three days, and so did Anita for the Black light room. And the dealers - like to say thank you all for the help and time to let them tear down after the show!!! It was a great show and a lot of help from the club members. Thank You.

If any body has any trips for rock hounding please let Sue know for the news bulletin. We would all like to hear about them.

Well it's that time again for picking a nominating committee for next year's officers and board members. We have a month to pick them, then nominate and install them at the Christmas party. The picnic went well with a lot of foods. We do have some really great cooks in the club.

We are getting a lot of people to show up for workshops, which is great to see. People are doing some great work on work shop night; we are trying to get more people to do some demonstrations. We have been taking a vote and are planning to buy some flat laps to help with workshop night, as we are getting more people for workshop night . We have asked Sue to demonstrate on how to make cabochons using the flat laps. She has made some really great cabs using her flat lap.

Well got to go, hope you have a great time at the meeting and workshop night and those that are planning last minute trips to find some rocks - have a great time! Looks like winter will be a little early this year; see you at the meeting or workshop.

Terry

From the Editor: As Terry mentioned, if you have taken any field trips, even to the beach, we would love to hear from you. Simply send an email to: rockchipreporter@gmail.com and tell us about your trip. I will put the article in the newsletter so we can all enjoy it.

**Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2014**

Vice President Karl Granzow called the meeting to order on August 19, 2014 at seven p.m. on the ground floor of the Faith Lutheran Church in North Bend. The meeting opened with the Flag Salute. There was one visitor in attendance, Paul Ginsburg of Coos Bay.

Judy Henson announced that the club has seven 42-inch scoops and picks for sale. Several members indicated their interest in purchasing the equipment.

Karl showed an educational DVD on the history of the Grand Canyon titled Rainbow of Stone.

Karl thanked those members who had contributed exhibits, demonstrations, and had worked at our rock and gem show. Doug Krensle, who worked all day on all three days, was recognized as the “The Best Raffle Ticket Seller Ever”. Judy will share the financial status of the show at the next meeting after all bills have been received and paid. Bill Hendrickson reported that the paid admittance was more than 800 adults and about 80 children. Don reported that all vendors were happy and are planning on returning next year.

Karl explained the problems we had experienced with the microphone system. He had tracked down the interference as being from the vendor lighting. He outlined the three options we were considering to correct those problems. Option number three, which had been approved by the board, was to purchase a new system consisting of two wireless microphones. This system can be either tied in to the Community Centers existing system or used as a stand-alone system at a cost of less than \$200. Charlene Gary made a motion to purchase this system and Doug Krensle seconded the motion. The motion passed. Karl will order the equipment.

Anita Harris read the minutes from the last minutes.

Don Innes noted that the Community Center fee needs to be paid for the show next year. This is necessary to reserve the space. We will get the first weekend in August next year.

Karl announced that the summer picnic will be held at Don and Terry’s home next Saturday, the 23rd of August.

Respectfully submitted, Anita Harris, Secretary

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**Meeting Notes
September 2, 2014**

President Terry Innes called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. on the ground floor of the Faith Lutheran Church in North Bend. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Terry introduced one guest, Helen Latta, who had been a member of our club 30 years ago. She has returned to the area to be close to family.

Terry gave a show report. The dealers wanted us to know they appreciated the potluck dinner. Judy Henson gave the financial report for the show. We cleared over \$5,000. Terry also noted that the club's summer picnic was a success.

Terry announced that it is time to get a nominating committee together for next year's officers and board members.

Karl Granzow reported that the new sound system has been received. He will test it with our existing equipment and have it ready for the next show.

Terry asked for a workshop report. Dee Enerson noted that not everyone was getting a turn to use equipment. She proposed a time limit on machines to give more members a turn. Bill Poppe asked that the board consider getting additional equipment. Karl suggested that the club obtain more user friendly flat laps. Terry said that he will schedule a board meeting to discuss equipment.

Keith DeMetz will have a show at the Coos Bay Fun Festival on September 19, 20 and 21st. He has five dealers coming is. The location will be at the South 4th Street parking lot across from Outdoor Inn.

Terry announced that rocks beginning with the letter "O" will be featured at next month's show and tell.

Respectfully submitted, Anita Harris, Secretary



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Belated Birthday to:

9/10 Karl Granzow

9/11 Martin Padilla

9/15 Robert Brooker

9/19 Caroline Trent

9/20 Jim Kingsley

9/23 Oscar Johnson

9/27 Eva Ahuna

9/28 Matt Vegar

September Birthstone: Sapphire

Like tourmaline, sapphire is another versatile stone because it is available in just about any color, though the red variety of sapphire is known as ruby. Sapphire can be a very dark blue, to the point of seeming dense and blackish from a distance. They may also be a strong, but not too bright blue, easily recognizable from a distance, this being the ideal color. Other possibilities are light, usually bright, blue, blue with a violet tinge, or palish blue. Like all corundum, sapphire always has good luster.

Sapphire's lore generally centers around eyesight and vision, especially for blue sapphires. Clergymen in the Middle Ages wore blue sapphire rings, believing the blue hues were symbolic of heaven, and healers and medicine men believed touching a blue sapphire to the eyes would soothe tired eyes and improve vision.

The best sapphires were discovered in a small deposit in Kashmir in 1880, which has now probably been exhausted. Very fine sapphires are also found in Burma, but in limited quantities. They are also mined in Sri Lanka, Thailand and Cambodia. But most sapphires come from Australia, which has numerous deposits of deeply colored stones.

Sapphire's colors include pink, yellow, green, violet, and colorless. Pink sapphire's most striking characteristic is its luster. It is usually a livelier, more attractive color than tourmaline. Pink stones come from Sri Lanka. Yellow sapphire may occur in quite a wide range of colors, from pale to canary yellow, gold, honey and brownish yellow. Like all corundum, the yellow type can often be distinguished from other gems by its luster. Due to its iron content, green sapphire is generally quite a strong, bright green color, sometimes with green to bluish green or yellowish green pleochroism. And, again, the luster is very good, as with all corundum. The green variety comes mainly from Australia, but it is also found in Montana and Thailand. Least known and appreciated on the gem market is the colorless sapphire, which is completely colorless or occasionally has a slight yellow tinge and has the typical luster of corundum.

AND OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

10/7 Bud Gilmor
10/9 Pat Ames
10/11 Krista Padilla
10/13 Walter Barnes
10/19 Don Trent
10/20 Virginia Hendrickson
10/20 Don Innes
10/20 Sara Slechta
10/28 Geoff Ogle
10/29 Carolyn DeMetz
10/31 Duffy Stender

October Birthstone: Opal

There are so many beautiful varieties of opal, including black opal and fire opal, each with its own unique beauty and characteristics.

The most common characteristic associated with opal is the magical play-of-color that precious opals display. It was likely because of that appearance that Australian aborigines believed that opals were formed when “the Creator, who arrived on Earth at the end of a rainbow,” touched the ground with his foot. In that place, according to their legend, the rock “came alive with color” and sparkled. They also believed that the fire came from those same opals.

Opal has a hardness of 5.5 to 6.5 and very low density, depending on the water content. The refractive index varies from 1.44 to 1.46 or a little more. It is singly refractive. It may be somewhat porous, in which case it is dangerous to immerse it in liquids other than water.

Nowadays, most opal comes from Australia, where the finest quality opals are found. Other sources are Mexico and, to a lesser extent, Guatemala and Honduras. Low-value or subgem quality varieties of opal are found in many other places, especially the U.S. and Iceland.

The white opal has been known and used for the longest time. However, the black opal has been known and appreciated since the beginning of the twentieth century, after the discovery of the Australian deposits.

Apart from precious opal, there is another type of opal known as common opal, which usually does not have the characteristic iridescence. The best known and appreciated variety, fire opal, is brightly colored.

FARWEST LAPIDARY 2015 SHOW

DATES

53rd GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

July 31, August 1 & 2, 2015

North Bend Community CENTER

2222 N. Broadway •

North Bend, OR 97459

Friday and Saturday -10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Admission \$1.00 - Children under 12 are Free



Silent Auctions - Door Prizes - Displays - Jewelry

Gemstones - Rough and Polished Rocks



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