



East KingCo Rock Club

January 2013 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Location: Juanita Community Club
13027 - 100th Ave. NE, Kirkland, WA 98034

When: Friday, **January 18, 2013**. 7:30 p.m. (7:00 p.m. for juniors)

Regular Program: 2013 Field Trip Preview

Youth Program: Learn about the major rock types and introduction to the

NEWS AND MINUTES

COMING UP...

- **Friday, Jan. 18:** 2013 Field Trip Preview – Presentation about the year's upcoming field trips, including what to expect, and samples and photos from previous trips. Youth: Rock Types
- **Sunday, Feb. 10:** Whidbey Island Beachcombing and Rock Show. See details below.
- **Friday, Feb. 15:** Preparation work party for our March 2-3 show at Pickering Barn. Youth: Fluorescent minerals.

MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

Club members are *encouraged* to send in photos and reports of recent activities and projects for the web site and newsletter!

WHIDBEY ISLAND FIELD TRIP: SHANNON HEASLETT

Shannon will lead a field trip to Whidbey Island on Sunday, Feb. 10th. Anyone in the club is welcome to come along and go beachcombing for beach rocks to tumble, to bird watch, and to attend a rock club show.

DETAILS

We will all meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Brick Yard Park-n-Ride off of I-405 northbound. This is Exit #22 = N.E. 160th, the next exit off the northbound freeway after you pass Totem Lake Mall. You will take a right off the freeway at exit #22, come up to the lighted intersection and take a left and proceed over the freeway. Once you get over the freeway, go straight through the first lighted intersection, and then take your first left hand turn into the Park-n-Ride. Look for Shannon & Heather. Heather's cell: 425-444-9852. We will be leaving at 8:15 am sharp. Keep in touch if you are running late.

We will all drive up 405 North, then I-5 North and follow the signs to the Mukilteo ferry. It leaves every 1/2 hour throughout the day. Current fares are \$15.70 round trip for car and driver. (More if you have a very large vehicle.) Additional passengers: adult = \$4.65, youth age 6-18 = \$ 3.75.

Once across the water and at Clinton we will follow Shannon to the Coupeville area of Whidbey Island, up by the Coupeville to Port Townsend ferry terminal. It's a good 45-minute drive. We will get out of our cars and stroll the beach for any cool rocks we find. This is also a good location to bird watch. We should spend a good hour on this beach.

For beach combing no shovels or hammers are needed. I usually bring along a couple of zip-lock plastic bags to put the rocks into as I am walking down the beach. No 5-gallon buckets as the local home owners will report us to the local game warden as they did last year. They just do not want to see us taking a lot of rocks off the beach.

For bird watching, bring these if you have them: a spotting scope, tripod, binoculars and a favorite bird book and pencil and paper to write down the birds spotted for the day.

We will then pack up and head to a second beach about 20 minutes away to do the same things. This beach is smaller but the rocks are a larger size. At both of these beaches the access will depend on the tides at the time, how much of the beach is exposed and how much debris has washed up on the rocks.

From there we will head into the town of Oak Harbor and hit a fast food restaurant. Then we will head to the rock show going on in Oak Harbor. Its put on by the Whidbey Island Gem Club and Pebble Pushers. This will be their 48th annual rock show. It is put on by Keith Ludemann. If you have attended other rock shows in our area you will recognize some of the vendors at this show.

Oak Harbor Senior Center
51 S.E. Jerome Street, Oak Harbor, WA 98277
Sunday hours = 9-4

From there we will head back home. This will be a full day of driving and beach combing and bird watching and food stop and rock show. I estimate we will all be back at the Park-n-Ride by Totem Lake Mall around 7:00 p.m., depending on ferry traffic and weather.

If you drive your own vehicle and do not car pool with others you can leave when you want. Please just let Shannon know when you are leaving! (That way the rest of the group is not wondering what has happened to you.)

GEAR AND PROVISIONS

Note that this is February, so dress accordingly. Bring along extra clothes and extra shoes. (I don't know many times I have seen a cool beach rock and it's just out of reach in the water and trying to time the incoming waves just right has never worked.) You will eventually get your shoes wet. Also this area of Whidbey Island is in the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains so the weather over there is usually better. I recommend bringing along a good hat; one that will cover up your ears if it's windy on the beach. For bird watching we are just standing in one place for a long time so bring a good water proof coat to keep you warm and a good pair of gloves or glove liners to keep your hands warm and still be able to focus your binoculars with.

As for food you will need to bring snacks and or sandwiches with us unless we plan on hitting up a fast food place somewhere over there, which we can all decide on once we get over there. That may be our only source for a bathroom, although the ferry terminal and rock show will have one as well.

Every vehicle that is going on this trip **will need** a WASHINGTON STATE DISCOVER PASS. It is good for 1-year from the day you buy it and costs about \$30.00. Or you can purchase a 1-day pass for about \$10.00. These can be purchased in person at any store that sells hunting & fishing licenses, or online at www.discoverpass.wa.gov or call 1-866-320-9933. The club we will be taking other field trips during the course of the year that will require this as well.

Any questions or ideas don't hesitate to call or e-mail Shannon: heaslett@comcast.net

Weather depending this will be a fun trip and a good outing for the club!

FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA PROGRAM: NORMA MCDONALD

In 2013, The East KingCo Rock Club enrolled the Juniors in the Future Rock Hounds of America Program. This is a national program that will provide for the recognition of the Junior education and learning experiences in the form of earning badges. Earn 5 badges, get a Rockhounding Hoodie!

Here is how it works: At each meeting, we will have a Juniors program designed to hit on the education points needed for the juniors attending to earn a badge. If a Junior member doesn't want to earn badges they don't have to, the junior programs will be a lot of fun just the same. Upon earning 5 badges, not including the initial membership badge, the Club will buy the Junior a hoodie to sew the badges onto. You can wear your special hoodie to meetings and field trips to show you are knowledgeable junior member of our club.

To earn your badge, juniors need to be at the meeting promptly at 7:00 p.m. **To get credit for the badge for that night you need to arrive no later than 7:15pm.** I can't repeat the lessons and we can't wait for you. If you have an unavoidable delay, the Junior member can ask for make-up assignments and I can see what I can work up for you.

Here is the schedule for 2013:

January – Rock Cycles and Types

February – Fluorescent Minerals

March – Fossils

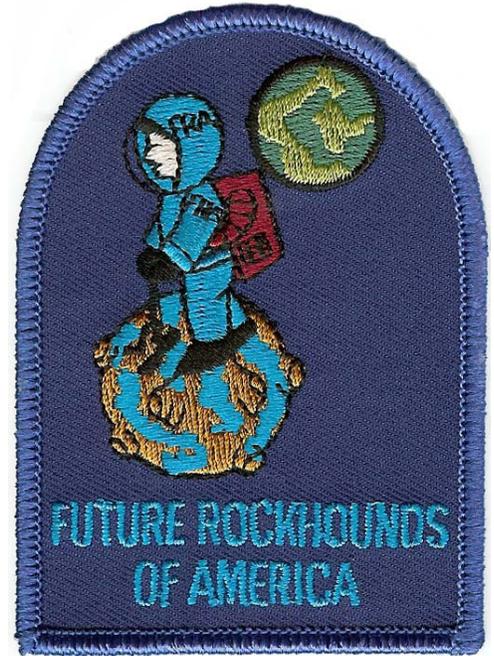
April – Meteorites

May – Stone age Tools

June – Gemstone Lore and Legends

See you at the next Meeting 7:00 pm January 18, 2013.

Norma McDonald, Junior Coordinator, 2013



THE AMERICAN AGATE & JASPER INDEX: KRISTEE GNIOT

A good friend of mine, Lowell Foster, who is a professor in Ventura CA, has spent many years compiling rock indexes for the US with help of many rock hounds, geologists, miners and lapidaries. I've been reading them and downloading them since 2009. Some of these PDF files are over 100MB and 200 pages. What a reference for any rock hound wanting to drool over rocks!

Lowell has given permission for these to be distributed amongst all rock lovers, clubs and online forums. He would like his work to be given freely to anyone that wants to learn about the materials found throughout the United States. "As stated, these are living documents and I plan to revise them again in 2014. If any of your members wants to contribute photos to the cause - especially for gaps in my coverage - please encourage them to do so. We don't pay, but we give contributor credit, but then it's a free download. "

Here are the 3 main Agate Indexes that are current as of last week (he updates and adds to the Indexes every year):

The 3rd 2012 Agate Index is ready! California is over 270 pages long with hundreds of colorful photographs provided by a couple dozen collectors and dealers. I have also reset all previous 2012 volumes with download links. I do not plan on taking time to do any of the 2010 volumes again, though the files still exist. All the states not appearing in the 2012 indexes will be replaced in the next couple months with updated 2012 volumes.

(Please see following note about issues with MediaFire as a file share site.)

2012 Vol 3 - California (110 MB)

www.mediafire.com/view/?9up5qyv0of3rl89

2012 Vol 2 - Northwest (80 MB)

www.mediafire.com/view/?12m6sn69h2t08ik

2012 Vol 2 - Southwest (56 MB)

www.mediafire.com/view/?odzmygiwvc8i4ry

Read more:

andy321.proboards.com/index.cgi?board=general&action=display&thread=57284#ixzz2Gt5h3mfR

In addition to the Indexes, there are also Portfolios that are absolutely AMAZING! I do not know Steve Haynes but Bob and Dan are both two of my mentors that I have spoken with online and both have been featured in Rock & Gem Magazine. In fact, Bob Rush was one of the people that inspired and taught me how to appreciate, map out and polish obsidian. He also was the one that taught me how to do the massive 3"+ cabochons!

Here are the links to the "Artists in Agate" Portfolios I've created.

They show the best of the best from people on this site:

Steve Haynes - Lakers (7 MB)

www.mediafire.com/view/?aa6g0va3a2akj6e

Dan Heuer - The Lapidary Alphabet (15 MB)

www.mediafire.com/view/?urxhkguex6z9czd

Dan Heuer - Rare Earths (8 MB)

www.mediafire.com/view/?2ops91rwrarskcl

Bob Rush - Brazilians (15 MB)

www.mediafire.com/view/?si5h5ck842las0y

Read more:

andy321.proboards.com/index.cgi?board=general&action=display&thread=57284#ixzz2Gt9ulhdG

The site Lowell uses for distributing the files (mediafire) has a bunch of pop ups so those need to be ignored and closed. The files though, once downloaded and saved to your computer, are yours to keep.

Here are some example images from Lowell Foster's *2012 Agate Index, Volume 2, Northwest*:

Agate Flat aka 'Lincoln Agate'

Jackson Co. Oregon
photo by Bob Rush



Plume Material

Quartz Creek
near St. Helens
Washington
photo by Charles Price



Holly Blue (Holley Blue)

Sweet Home, Linn Co.
Oregon

photo by Dan Heuer

EAST KINGCO CONTACT INFO

General Club Email: eastkingco@gmail.com
Newsletter and Web Site editor: Bruce Kelley, bruce.kelley@gmail.com
Club Website: www.eastkingco.org
Meetings: Our meetings are held the 3rd Friday of the month except July and August at:
Juanita Community Club
13027 - 100th Ave NE
Kirkland, WA 98034

UPCOMING SHOWS AND FIELD TRIPS

See www.mineralcouncil.org or the club website for more.

SHOWS

- **March 2-3, 2013 – East KingCo Rock Club**
Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Sunday: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Pickering Barn
1730 - 10th Ave. NW, Issaquah, WA 98027
(Across from Costco)
- **March 22-24, 2013 – Mount Hood Rock Club**
Friday & Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sunday: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Kliever Memorial NG Armory
10000 NE 33rd Dr., Portland OR 97221

FIELD TRIPS

- **February 10, 2013 – Whidbey Island**
Beach agates, bird watching and the Sweetheart of Gems Show
Meet at the Brick Yard park-and-ride, I-405 exit 22 (just north of Totem Lake) at 8:00 am.
Bring a Washington State Discovery Pass for your vehicle! <http://www.discoverpass.wa.gov/>
See details in Shannon's article above.