



The Rock-It

June 2009

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Treasurer: Troy Smith (503) 646-1932
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Board Member: Michael Brown
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Exhibits Chairperson: Lamar Tilgner (503) 666-2905
Registration: Edna Nelson (503) 397-5284
Sunshine Person: ****Leona**** (503) 254-2621
Juniors Leader: Steve Nelson, and Kala Wellman
Refreshments Book: Mary Bolton, see her before she sees you!
Club Historian: Esther Lively (503) 774-9559
Librarian: Barbara Brandt or Dick Wormcke
Programs: If you have one let us know (Monday meeting)
Display Table: Richard Shellhammer (503)-658-8003
Membership: Merlia Tilgner (503) 666-2905
Regional Advisor:
Regional Advisor: Steve Nelson (503) 397-5284
Greeter: Rotating
Trip Coordinator: See Tim Fisher if you have a field trip.
Weeklong Club Trip: Tim Fisher
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"The Rock-It" is the official club publication of the Mt. Hood Rock Club. The news deadline is the first day of every month, for that month's publication. The contents of "The Rock-It" may be reprinted if credit is given to "The Rock-It" and the author.

Meetings: Mt. Hood Rock Club meets the second Tuesday & the fourth Monday of each month. Meetings are held in the basement of the United Methodist Church in Gresham. The Church is located at 8th & Norman. Regular meetings start at 7:00 pm. Juniors are welcome!

Mt. Hood Rock Club: Phone No. (503) 760-1825

Dues are due before January 31st if you want to be included in the club's roster for that year.

Dues: \$10.00 per adult, juniors \$1.50 family membership same household \$15.00.

Oregon Council Web site:

www.oregoncouncilrmc.org

Mt. Hood Rock Club is a proud member of the Portland Regional Gem & Mineral Show Association, Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Oregon Council Rock Mineral Clubs.

Website: www.mthoodrockclub.com so check us out on our new web site.



Via: Keene Clay

This page mentions mineral collecting, mineral storage, labeling, and proper care for minerals.

Collection Methods

Many collectors save any mineral type they find. They try to have as many minerals in their collection as they can. Since there are over 3,000 minerals, and each one has variances, they will never reach the goal of having every mineral. No collection in the world is close to complete. A collection method known as *specialized collecting* is used by many collectors throughout the world. Instead of collecting any and every mineral specimen, specialized collectors collect only certain types of minerals, based on several classification "groups". These groups compromise minerals that have some similar characteristics. For example: **metallic** minerals, **isometric** minerals, **zeolites**, **fluorescent** minerals, and even different varieties of the same mineral.

Some collectors have thumbnail and micromount collections. Thumbnails are mineral specimens about 1 inch (2.5 cm.) in size, and micromounts are about 1/10 to 1/20 of an inch (15 -27 mm.) in size. Both are usually stored in small, plastic, clear, covered boxes, and mounted on thin stands. There are several advantages to thumbnail and micromount collecting. The smaller a crystal is, the more perfect its shape. These tiny crystals can have near-perfect crystallization that is beautifully displayed when viewed through a microscope. Micromounts and thumbnails also take up less space and are considerably cheaper than larger specimens.

Mineral Storage

Storing minerals is dependant upon preference and environment. Many want to display their minerals in a breakfront or viewing cabinet where the beauty of their minerals can be publicly displayed. Because of the high price of breakfronts, most collectors keep their specimens in inexpensive organized drawers. A beginner may store his minerals in boxes or cartons, but will eventually achieve better storage methods.

To get a good understanding of mineral storage, I will discuss the timeline of my collection and how it was organized. When I first started collecting minerals, I had my minerals stored in styrofoam egg boxes. The boxes were free and provided adequate storage. Since they were flimsy, I partially replaced them with plastic compartment boxes that I purchased in a hardware store. As my collection grew, these storage methods became inadequate. I was fortunate to find a nice cabinet that my neighbor threw out, so I put each mineral in a little box and placed them in the cabinet drawers. At the time, this provided me with plenty of room, but I had to add more storage furniture as my

collection further expanded. I then purchased a container used for storing nuts and bolts, and I put my small gemstones into it. I also added a large, flat, covered box that was being thrown out. When storage space became a problem again, I inherited a small breakfront, installed lights, and arranged the minerals until I had a beautiful display.

Minerals should be stored by group no matter what storage method is used. This is the basis of organization. For a general collection, minerals should be organized by groupings. It doesn't make a difference what method is used, as long as there is a method, whether it be chemical groups, colors, or hardness.

Labeling

To mineral collectors, the locality of a mineral is almost as important as the mineral's name. When a mineral is found, an index card describing the mineral and its locality should be filled out. In addition, when purchasing a mineral without a locality label, make sure to ask for locality information. The value of a mineral can be reduced if its locality information is unknown.

If you keep minerals in your collection in cardboard boxes, the best way to retain the locality is by placing a label with the mineral's name, variety, together with the mineral. If minerals are displayed, they should be labeled either by a number with information corresponding to that number, or by charting them in a display listing. Another method, popular among computer enthusiasts, is using a database to organize the mineral information.

Proper Care

Some minerals have weaknesses in their physical structure, and must be kept in special conditions. This includes fragility,

disintegration, color fading, and transformation. All minerals break when put under stress, some easier than others. Therefore, ALL minerals should be handled as little as possible.

If minerals in a display breakfront or casing, they should not be crammed together. There should be ample space between the specimens. If the minerals are in drawers, they should be placed in small cardboard boxes. Many purchased minerals are sold in such boxes. Extra care must be exercised when handling and storing delicate minerals. A badly broken specimen loses its beauty and can become worthless. These fragile minerals should be kept on foam padding or cotton, although **acicular**, **fibrous**, and long, slender crystals should be kept away from cotton, as the crystals can get caught in the cotton and break. When cleaning minerals one should use extreme caution.

Several minerals lose their original color when exposed to light for extended periods. Some minerals, such as **kunzite**, **amethyst**, and **topaz** fade upon prolonged exposure to light. Any mineral that fades should be in a dark area or covered box.

A few minerals, namely proustite and pyrargyrite, **darken** upon exposure to light. They darken at a much faster pace than fading minerals fade, and therefore superior care must be taken to keep these specimens away from light. The minerals realgar and orpiment must also be kept out of light. Orpiment crumbles into powder when exposed to light for extended periods. (I have seen some majestic orpiment specimens on display in museums crumbling into powder.) Realgar transforms into orpiment in strong light, and eventually crumbles.

Halite, chalcantite, and several other minerals are soluble in water. These minerals should not be washed with water, and must not be stored in a humid place. To insure that they remain dry, they should be kept with **silica gel**, or rice, which absorb moisture. Silica gel and rice eventually become saturated and should be replaced on a regular basis, depending on the humidity.

A small number of minerals, such as **borax** and **kernite**, are **efflorescent**, meaning they lose water in their structure if stored in a dry area. Such minerals should be kept in a moist place.

Via: the Internet



June's Recipe

Crumbly Apple Pie

Crust:

1 cup all-purpose flour
½ teaspoon salt
⅓ cup chilled solid vegetable shortening
¼ cup ice water

Filling:

7 medium Granny Smith, Golden Delicious, or Gravenstien apples, peeled, cored, and very thinly sliced
½ cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg
¼ teaspoon salt

Topping:

¾ cup firmly packed dark brown sugar
¾ cup all-purpose flour
½ cup teaspoon ground nutmeg
⅓ cup chilled butter, cut into small pieces

1. Place oven rack in lowest position. Preheat oven to 400*.
2. To prepare crust, in a medium bowl, mix together flour and salt. Using a pastry blender or 2 knives, cut shortening into flour mixture until coarse crumbs form.
3. Add water, 1 tablespoon at a time, tossing with a fork, until a dough forms. Shape into a disk, wrap into plastic wrap, and chill for 30 minutes.
4. On a floured surface, using a floured rolling pin, roll dough into a 12-inch circle. Fit into a 9-inch pie pan. Trim



June Birthdays

Patty Amos
Phil Bolton
Kirby Harris

June Anniversaries

Bud & Jo Hauschild
Marvin & Pauline Lieb

If you want your name and anniversary included in the newsletter let me know when your birthday or anniversary is.



- excess dough leaving a 1-inch overhang; make a decorative edge.
- To prepare filling, mix together all ingredients. Spoon into crust.
 - To prepare topping, in a small bowl, mix together brown sugar, flour, and nutmeg. Using a pastry blender or 2 knives, cut butter into brown sugar mixture until coarse crumbs form. Sprinkle apples evenly with topping.
 - Bake pie until topping is lightly browned and filling is bubbly, 35 minutes. If pie is over browning, cover loosely with aluminum foil. Transfer to a wire rack to cool.

ALASKAN PIPELINE

Alaska's Prudhoe Bay is one of the worlds major oil-producing regions; petroleum flows south through the 800-mile Trans-Alaska Pipeline, constructed between 1974 and 1977.



LARGE RESERVES
 MAINTENANCE
 MOUNTAINS
 PETROLEUM
 PRUDHOE BAY
 RIVERS
 STATIONS
 TANKERS

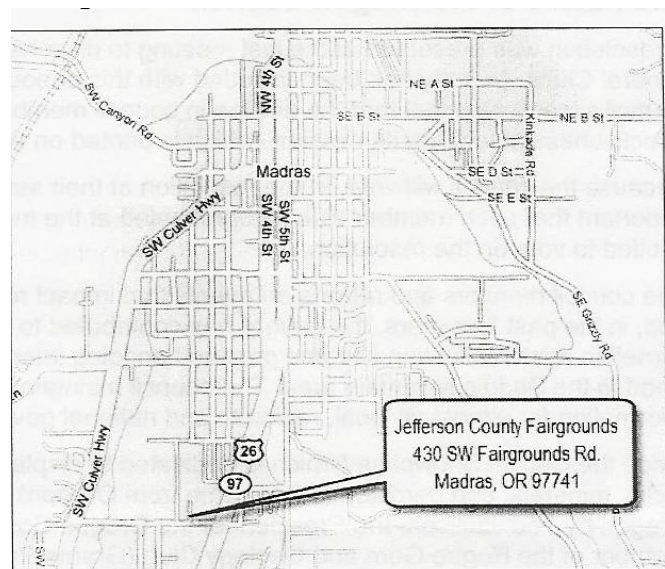
LARGE RESERVES
 MINING
 NATURAL GAS
 PIPELINE
 REMOTE AREAS
 ROADS
 STREAMS
 TUNDRA

Oregon Council of Rock & Minerals Clubs Summer 2009 Meeting Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Madras, Oregon

Make plans to attend the show and join us at the council meeting.
 Saturday, July 4th, 2009
 Lunch at 12:00
 Meeting starts at 1:00

Jefferson County Fairgrounds
 Madras, Oregon
 The meeting of the Oregon Council of Rock & Mineral Clubs coincides with the All American Pow Wow Clubs summer show and gathering.

Parking is free at the fairgrounds.



Map to fairgrounds



The Future of the Oregon Council

New Officers Sought for New Term

The council's summer meeting is also the time when new officers are elected to serve a one year term. If you are interested in preserving your access to public lands and interacting with rock collectors from all over the state, you should consider participating in the Oregon Council of Rock & Mineral Clubs leadership.

Just show up at the summer meeting and let us know you're interested in helping. It's really more fun than work!

The Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Club's Mission

The Oregon council is dedicated to:

- Establishing communication links to state and national government representatives and agencies. For information about state and national government representatives and agencies, see [Contacting your Government Agencies and Representatives](#).
- Preserving access to public lands for rock and mineral collectors. For more information regarding preserving access to public lands, see [Preserving Access to Public Lands](#).
- Spreading information regarding the issues that impact access to public lands to the rock and mineral clubs that are affiliated with the OCRMC and other recreational organizations, that are dedicated to preserving recreational access to public lands. For a list of affiliated clubs (and their shows) and other recreational organizations, see [Affiliated Clubs and Recreational Preservation Organizations](#).

A resolution was presented at the last meeting to dissolve the Oregon Council of Rock & Mineral Clubs. A copy will be following this article. Some members of the council's leadership feel that the decline in council membership has diminished the council's effectiveness at fulfilling its mission.

Because the council will vote on the resolution at their summer meeting in Madras, it is important that each member club is represented at the meeting. Each club's representative is initialed to vote on the resolution.

The council monitors and reports on events that impact rockhound's access to public lands and, in the past few years, the council has contributed to re-opening the Hemlock Lake carnelian agate collection site and provided ongoing information about collecting petrified wood in the Saddle Mountain area. The council maintains a website that provides contact information for almost all local, regional, and national government agencies and official.

Since the Capitol Showcase (which is dedicated to displaying the wide variety of beautiful rocks, minerals and gemstones that come from Oregon) was presented to the State of Oregon by Ted Jackson, the President of the Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs and member of the Rogue Gem and Geology Club (Grants Pass) at that time, the council has both maintained the case and coordinated rotating the actual display between the council's member clubs.

The council also conducts the annual Oregon Council Trophy Competition. This competition is designed to both encourage all Oregon club members to develop their lapidary skills and showmanship, and highlight the beautiful material that can be found in Oregon.

If you feel the council provides a valuable service to the community of Oregon rockhounds, either send your club's representative to the council's summer meeting-or plan on attending in person. The meeting of the OCRMC coincides with the American Pow Wow clubs summers show and gathering. The weather's typically great and there are plenty of vendors and field trips-it's always a good time!

Oregon Council of Rocks and Minerals Resolution

To be voted on by the representatives of each member club who attend the Annual Meeting in Madras, Oregon on July 4, 2009

Whereas: membership in the Oregon Council of Rocks and Minerals (OCRM) is and has been declining for many years;

Whereas: attendance at OCRM's meetings has been very poor for many years;

Whereas: recruiting volunteers to run for officer positions in the OCRM has been increasingly difficult;

Whereas: OCRM is so small and inactive that we do not have the power to make a difference in what the government or any other entity does with our public lands;

Whereas: there is a much larger and more active group of rockhounds, the American Land Access Association, that does have the power and the charter to lobby government agencies responsible for our public lands;

Therefore: The OCRM should be disbanded and all money in the OCRM treasury, minus expenses needed to complete the disbanding, be dispersed to those member clubs currently in good standing on April 25th, 2009. The amount of the disbursement to each club will be determined according to a count of the number of members on the current OCRM membership list since this is the way that dues are assessed. Clubs may have the option of having their portion of the disbursement donated to the American Lands Access Association.

The club's decision on the option of retaining or donating their portion of the disbursement is to be decided by the individual club. The club's decision is to be reported in writing to the OCRM Treasurer, Beth Heesacker, by October 1, 2009. This written decision will be signed by the club's OCRM representative and by the President of the club. Disbursement will be completed by November 1, 2009.

Determination of what is to be done with the display case at the Oregon Capital Building in Salem and the OCRM Trophy will be made after the vote if this resolution passes.

The resolution will be posted on the ;OCRM web site as soon as possible after the April 25, 2009 meeting and mailed to all clubs in the next OCRM newsletter sent out before the July 4th 2009 meeting.

Beth Heesacker
OCRM Treasurer
4145 NW Heesacker Rd.
Forest Grove, Oregon 97116
503-357-8804
heesacker@coho.net

If you are interested in getting involved in the Oregon Council plan on attending the July meeting.

Council Meeting Minutes April 25, 2009 -- Grants Pass, Oregon

The spring meeting was held in Grants Pass April 25 at 1 pm. The meeting was called to order by President, Paul Heesacker. Ten members attended: Paul & Beth Heesacker, John & Brenda Burford, from Sweet Home Club, Clyde Wilson from Grants Pass Club, Troy & Lenora Smith from Mt. Hood Club, Dan Zaiss from Eugene Club, and Ted & Vickie Johnson of WAMS club in Salem.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer report by Beth, we have \$2429.62 in the treasure at this time.

Vickie Johnson submitted a bill for printing information sheets that were given to the children who attended Oregon's 150th birthday in the Capitol building. They gave lots of beautiful polished agates, jaspers and petrified wood one to every child who attended the celebration or who came through the line near the Capitol case.

Old Business

- John Burford reported that the Hemlock Forest Service Agate Beds have now been approved for rock collecting and the Roseburg club has been to the site.
- Troy has been corresponding with the BLM representative from the Saddle Mt. petrified wood area. The ranchers areas now are marked so do not collect on those areas.

New Business

- Beth Heesacker presented a resolution to dissolve the Oregon Rock Council. (*Webmaster's note: You can read the resolution at [Resolution.](#)*)

A lively discussion followed. Because the Council will vote on the resolution at the Summer meeting in Madras, it is important that each member club is provided with a copy of the resolution and encourage to send their council representatives to the meeting. Regardless of the vote's outcome, both Beth and Paul will no longer be involved in

the Council; they believe their efforts would have more impact if directed through the [American Lands Access Association \(ALAA\)](#).

There are 13 clubs that have paid their dues to the council: WAMS, MHRC, Columbia Gorge, Springfield Thunderegg Rock Club, South Douglas Gem Club, Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club, Rogue Gem & Geology Club, Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club, Lower Umpqua Gem & Lapidary Club, Oregon Agate & Mineral Society, and Farwest Lapidary Gem Society.

It was agreed that notification of the resolution be distributed to all member clubs. Dan will add the resolution to the website and include it with the next meeting announcement.

- Vickie and Ted reported the glass shelving in the Capitol case needs to be replaced due to abrasions and scratches from the rocks. We passed a motion authorizing Vickie & Ted to replace glass as needed.
- Vickie and Ted reported the glass shelving in the Capitol case needs to be replaced due to abrasions and scratches from the rocks. We passed a motion authorizing Vickie & Ted to replace glass as needed.
- Officers needed for the New Year. The active members of the Council have provided that all council positions have at least one candidate (John Burford, President, VP Lenora Smith,

Secretary Marian Andrus, Treasurer Brenda Burford, Web Master Dan Zaiss, Case Agent Vicki Johnson, Directors Troy Smith and Ted Johnson). However, it was also recommended that a public effort be made to recruit new leaders. To that Dan will include an appeal in both the next meeting announcement and website.

- Big discussion followed in what has happened in Oregon Council. We feel not enough clubs or members are looking at the web site. Dan will try to send a printed bulletin to each member club plus continue with the web site for the present time.

Marine Preserve Legislation

Ted Johnson also reported on a marine preserve bill that the governor is pushing. The bill would create a "protected" area that would cover the coastal area between the Smelt Sands beach (north of Yachats) to Cape Perpetua. Suggestion given to call our representatives and notify [American Lands Access Association \(ALAA\)](#). We can look on-line at State Parks then link for marine preserves. We assume the bill would impact all beach combing.

(Webmaster's note:) You can learn more at the [Oregon Marine Preserve](#) website. On Thursday, May 28, 2009, the Oregon House of Representatives unanimously approved HB-3013, which establishes two pilot marine reserve projects at Otter Rock near Depoe Bay and Redfish Rocks near Port Orford and prescribes a process to evaluate the potential for reserves in four other areas of the coast. For more information, see the [Oregon Coastal Caucus](#) website.

Closing

The next meeting will be in Madras, Oregon. Please encourage all 13 member clubs to be present to vote on the

proposed resolution of disbanding the Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs or to remain active.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes taken by Lenora Smith, Council Vice President

Transcribed and distributed by Marian Andrus, Council Secretary.

Attention:

I would like to get members email address so that I can make an email list for the Rock-It. I don't know if I will always be able to email the newsletter it will depend on the content of the letter but if you would like to receive it by email when I do please get your email address to me by emailing me at packrats2@msn.com and I will add you to my current list. At this time I have around 35 members and editor's email addresses.

Using your cell phone!!!!

Traveling down the interstate and needing to use the restroom, I stop at a rest area and head to the restroom. I was barely sitting down when I heard a voice from the other stall saying: "Hi, how are you?" I'm not the type to start a conversation in the restroom and I don't know what got into me, but I answered, somewhat embarrassed, "Doin' just fine!" And the other person says: "So what are you up to?" What kind of question is that? At that point, I'm thinking this is too bizarre so I say: "Uhhh, I'm like you, just traveling!" At this point I am just trying to get out as fast as I can when I hear another question.

"Can I come over?"

Ok, this question is just too weird for me but I figured I could just be polite and end the conversation. I tell them "No. I'm a little busy right now!!!"

Then I hear the person say nervously....

"Listen, I'll have to call you back. There's an idiot in the other stall who keeps answering all my questions

Cell phones..Don't you just love them!

Recipe for Making Petrified Wood

Take one Tree. Immerse in water. Stir gently until it becomes water logged and sinks to the bottom of the pan. (Several centuries should do the trick.) Now stir in generous quantities of Silica, Manganese and then add iron for coloring. Pour in a layer of sediments about 3,000 ft. deep. Allow to settle for a couple of million years, then gradually drain off the water. Sit it out to dry in a strong breeze. When the wind has blown away the sediments layer, you will find the minerals have soaked into the tree, replacing the cell structure of the wood with stone.

Common Minerals and their uses

Chromite (chromium): Some 99 percent of the world's chromite is found in southern Africa and Zimbabwe. Chemical and metallurgical industries use about 85% of the chromite consumed in the United States.



Cobalt: Used in superalloys for jet engines, chemicals (paint driers, catalysts, magnetic coatings, pigments, rechargeable batteries), magnets, and cemented carbides for cutting tools. Principal cobalt producing countries include Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zambia, Canada, Cuba, Australia, and Russia. The United States uses about one-third of total world consumption.

Cobalt resources in the United States are low grade and production from these deposits is usually not economically feasible.



Columbite-tantalite group

(columbium is another name for

niobium): Columbite is a natural oxide of niobium, tantalum, ferrous iron, and manganese. Some tin and tungsten may be present in the mineral. Columbium, in the form of Ferro columbium, is used mostly as an additive in steel making and in super alloys for such applications as heat-resisting and combustion equipment, jet engine components, and rocket subassemblies, in cemented carbides, and in superconductors. Brazil and Canada are the world's leading producers.



Copper: Used in electric cables and wires, switches, plumbing, heating, roofing and building construction, chemical and pharmaceutical machinery, alloys (brass, bronze, and a new alloy with 3% beryllium that is particularly vibration resistant), alloy castings, electroplated protective coatings and undercoats for nickel, chromium, zinc, etc., and cooking utensils. The leading producer is Chile, followed by the U.S., and Indonesia.



Feldspar: A rock-forming mineral, industrially important in glass and ceramic industries, pottery and enamelware, soaps, abrasives, bond for abrasive wheels, cements and concretes, insulating compositions, fertilizer, poultry grit, tarred roofing materials, and as a sizing (or filler) in textiles and paper. Albite is a feldspar mineral and is a sodium aluminum silicate. This form of feldspar is used as a glaze in ceramics.

Kids grow a cupful of epsom salt crystal needles in your refrigerator. It's quick, easy, and safe.

Difficulty: Easy

Time Required: 3 hours

Here's How:

-
1. In a cup or small, deep bowl, mix 1/2 cup of epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) with 1/2 cup of hot tap water (hot as it will get from the faucet).
 2. Stir about a minute to dissolve the epsom salts. There will still be some undissolved crystals at the bottom.
 3. Place the cup in the refrigerator. The bowl will fill with needle-like crystals within three hours.

Tips:

-
1. Don't use boiling water to prepare your solution. You will still get crystals, but they will be more threadlike and less interesting. The temperature of the water helps control the concentration of the solution.
 2. If you like, you can place a small object at the bottom of the cup to make it easier to remove your crystals, such as a quarter or plastic bottle cap. Otherwise, carefully scoop the crystal needles from the solution if you wish to examine them or save them.
 3. Don't drink the crystal liquid. It's not toxic, but it's not good for you either.

What You Need:

-
- cup or small bowl

-
- epsom salt
 - hot tap water

**44th Annual
ROCK & GEM SHOW**

Sept. 19, 2009
10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.
Sept. 20, 2009
10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.

Dealers
Food-Door Prizes-Gem Dig
Demonstrators-Spin Table
Country Store-Silent Auction
Voice Auction (Sat 3 P.m.)

Castle Rock Fairgrounds
Castle Rock, WA

****FREE ADMISSION****

The Southern Washington
Mineralogical Society

Show Chairman Fran Wolff
360-560-2987 fwolff@comcast.net

We hope to see you there.



Happy Fathers Day to all of you Fathers
and Grandfathers hope you have a great
day!