

**C.O.R.C.**

## ***Central Oregon Rock Collectors***

**May 2016, Newsletter**

**“It’s in our name... it’s what do we do... we collect rocks!!!!”**

The **CENTRAL OREGON ROCK COLLECTORS** is an informal group dedicated to sharing the rock hound hobby. We meet for field trips, collecting rock, and related activities. You do not have to be a member to attend. However if you are interested in joining, yearly memberships are only \$20 for individuals, or \$25 for families. At the end of this newsletter is a form for joining the C.O.R.C.

**PRESIDENT:** Debby J. Simon [dsdr1500@yahoo.com](mailto:dsdr1500@yahoo.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Al Liebetrau [liebetrauam@msn.com](mailto:liebetrauam@msn.com)

**TREASURER:** Marty Betsch [mbetsch@bendbroadband.com](mailto:mbetsch@bendbroadband.com)

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**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Jules/Jan Wetzel [jjwetzel@bendbroadband.com](mailto:jjwetzel@bendbroadband.com)

**FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE CHAIR:** Elizabeth Prindle [pointingatthemoon@bendcable.com](mailto:pointingatthemoon@bendcable.com)

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR:** Sue Liebetrau [liebetrauam@msn.com](mailto:liebetrauam@msn.com)

**NORTHWEST FEDERATION REPS. :** Del and Clara Walker [cdwalker@q.com](mailto:cdwalker@q.com)

**WEBMASTER:** Karen Cameron [karecame@gmail.com](mailto:karecame@gmail.com)

**OUR WEBSITE:** <http://corockcollectors.com>

**Welcome:** Rockhounding is best when it is shared. We welcome visitors to our meetings, anytime. If anyone has any interesting adventures or unusual materials that they would like to share, we would love to hear about them.

**The Club meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, March through October, the November meeting is a potluck holiday get-together on a Sunday. No winter meetings.**

**Regular meetings are held at the Redmond Senior Center, 325 NE Dogwood Avenue, Redmond, starting at 7:00 pm until 8:30 or 9:00.**

### **March Meeting:**

25 people met Wednesday, April 20 for a program by Jack Benedict on knapping skills and a short business meeting.

## **Field Trips:**

Eight club members participated in our trip to Congleton Hollow April 10 to look for petrified wood and limb casts. We mostly found chips and a few small(twig-sized)rounds. Elizabeth found a substantial-sized cast that also had opalite in the middle.



Elizabeth excavating the prize of the trip (above) – and the prize (below)



Our next trip is Sunday May 22, to Richardson's Rock Ranch. Directions and more info are at <http://richardsonrockranch.com/> We will meet in front of the Richardson's rock shop at 9 AM. We will have special access to the Blue Opal Bed which has been closed to the public for some time. Bring picks and prying tools. Other beds will be open, but this is a unique opportunity to access this bed. You will pay for what you find by the pound.

Save the dates for:

May 28-30	Spectrum Sunstone Mine, Plush OR, Mt. Hood Club hosting <a href="https://www.facebook.com/events/1679407312317462/">https://www.facebook.com/events/1679407312317462/</a> <a href="http://tworockshounds.com/fieldtrips/">http://tworockshounds.com/fieldtrips/</a>
June Pow-Wows:	Prineville 16-19, Madras 23-26, numerous field trips
July 17	Sunflower Flats Jasper, Warm Springs
July 29-31	NFMS/AFMS show in Albany, OR <a href="http://www.amfed.org/nfms/FederationShow.asp">http://www.amfed.org/nfms/FederationShow.asp</a>
Aug 2-8	NMFS/AFMS field trips originating from Prineville.
Aug 28	Delintment Lake area ammonites.
Oct 12	Warm Springs Reservoir/Beulah Lk (3-4 day trip)

Contact: Elizabeth Prindle, Field Trip Chairperson at [pointingatthemoon@bendcable.com](mailto:pointingatthemoon@bendcable.com)

### **Programs:**

May 18 meeting:	Steven Douglas, Douglas Jewelry Design in Bend will present on the Oregon Sunstone, History, Mining, and Jewelry making.
June 15 meeting:	Julian Gray, executive Director Rice Museum will have a presentation on crystal growth. July 24
meeting:	Club potluck picnic and silent auction, short business meeting.

Contact: Sue Liebetrau, Program Chairperson at [liebetrauam@msn.com](mailto:liebetrauam@msn.com)

### **April Draft Minutes:**

**Executive Meeting:** The Vice President, Al Liebetrau, called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

In attendance: Marty Betsch, Karen Cameron, Al Liebetrau, Sue Liebetrau, Suzie Meeker, Elizabeth Prindle, Deb Simon, and Jules Wetzel.

Program tonight: Jack Benedict and knapping techniques

Al presented the Principles of Effective Leadership document that was emailed to member of the Executive Committee. This document was developed in part last fall in a retreat and is designed as a guide for the club. The document is intended to also list the duties and responsibilities of the various leadership positions in the club. Several items were discussed and revised. The title of the document was changed to CORC Club Organizational Guidelines. The document will continue to be revised. The group discussed whether to make it available to the entire club or post it on the website. No decision was reached.

The chairs of the committees will be responsible for providing the members of their committee to the Executive Committee. New members of the committees will continue to be solicited.

Field Trip Committee members: Elizabeth Prindle, chair; Ruth Pettit, Don Ross, and Bill Quant.

Program Committee members: Sue Liebetrau, chair; Marty Betsch, Elizabeth Prindle, Deb Simon and Jules Wetzel.

The question of having a hospitality committee was discussed. Currently there is an informal greeting of new members when they arrive at the meeting.

Judy Elkin has distributed collecting sites and maps in the past. Elizabeth and Al have copies. The group discussed coordinating them with Casey Kaiser at the Prineville Chamber of Commerce and then making them available to club members by scanning them. Al will follow up.

Don Ross briefly presented the idea of the club filling a display case at the Redmond Public Library from June 1 to the end of Sept. The committee recommended he present his idea to the club in the general meeting.

Karen reported that the web site had almost 100 visits in March. Her information also detailed what links visitors followed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

**General Meeting:** President Deb Simon called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Debby Simon introduced herself as the President and welcomed guests to the club. The guests introduced themselves. Approximately 25 people attended the general meeting. The club website is located at [www.corockcollectors.com](http://www.corockcollectors.com) and includes past newsletters, information on upcoming field trips and resources.

**Presentation:** The program presenter was introduced. Jack Benedict recently moved to Central Oregon and has extensive experience with knapping and rockhounding. He demonstrated flint knapping techniques. He has mined obsidian in the Davis Creek area in northern California and other locations in CA and OR. He showed the tools which included a piece of copper plumbing pipe flattened at one end and wrapped with tape for grip, leather to cover his lap, and a tarp. He demonstrated pressure knapping. Obsidian can be difficult to work with because it is very sharp. However, he prefers not to wear gloves because his sense of touch is important when knapping. Jack showed other mediums that can be used such as glass and opalite. Knapping creates useful products as well as ones that can be artwork.

Jack recommended Tim Fisher's web page Oregon Rockhounds Online at [http://orerocon.com/ore\\_rock.htm](http://orerocon.com/ore_rock.htm) with more information about knapping and how different materials can be heated so that they can be used in knapping.

**Sharing:** Members shared rockhounding experiences. Deb Simon went to the Medford Show in April and stopped at the Crater Rock Museum in Central Point, OR. For more info please go to [www.CraterRock.com](http://www.CraterRock.com)

Jan and Jules Wetzel visited Deming, NM, and passed around colorful Baker Ranch Thundereggs from a rock shop there. Suzie Meeker went to North Ochoco Reservoir with Don Ross and Karen Cameron and obtained rim jasper. Jan Whiteman recommended joining NW Rockhounds through Facebook. She is interested in the green thundereggs. Jason Hinkle may be willing to guide a fieldtrip. His website is at <http://www.oregonthundereggs.com/>



Don Ross recommended [www.thegemshop.com](http://www.thegemshop.com) and [www.harmons.net](http://www.harmons.net) as additional good rock websites.

**Business:** Deb reported that the Easter Egg Hunt in Prineville at Pioneer Park went well. She made baskets with rocks, and she expressed appreciation to the club members who donated rocks and helped with the event. The club may consider additional activities on other holidays in Prineville to encourage rockhounding.

Don Ross presented the idea of the club displaying photos and rock specimens at the Redmond Library from June 1 to Sept. 30. There was general support for Don's proposal. Al Liebetrau volunteered to help Don set up a display to showcase CORC.

Treasurer's Report – approximately \$1850 – expenses taken. Membership dues are due by the end of the month. Members can have one of the club decals.

Secretary's Report – accepted as posted in the CORC newsletter

NW Federation of Mineralogical Societies Report - The Federation Rock Show will be in Albany on July 29-31. Field trips the following week will take place from Prineville at no charge. Sign ups will be in Prineville. More info will be available at the next meeting.

Field Trips - The first CORC field trip of 2016 was held on Sunday, April 10, at the Congleton Hollow area for limb casts. Eight members attended. Elizabeth Prindle passed around samples of rock collected. The next field trip will be on May 22 to Richardson's Rock Ranch near Madras. They will be opening the Blue Opal Bed for rock club members. Don Ross passed around samples of polished blue opal thundereggs.

Newsletter – Jules/Jan Wetzel. There is a classified area in the newsletter. Please contact them to list products you would like to sell. Jan Whiteman thanked Jules and Jan for the article on club member Paul Asman.

Programs – Sue Liebetrau reported that the next speaker would be Steven Douglas, owner of Douglas Jewelry Designs in Bend, who is an expert on Oregon sunstones.

Al Liebetrau reported briefly on the proposed BLM management plan for the Ochoco Mts. designating additional land as wilderness. As an interested party, he spoke recently in Prineville at a meeting held by a member of Congress, Rep. Greg Walden. Al will continue to monitor the situation.

The club's projector has been located since the last club meeting.

Raffle prizes were distributed, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by Suzie Meeker, Secretary

## **Membership:**

Welcome new members:

Dawn Overman – Redmond

Candi Biever - Bend

## **Know Your Fellow Members:**



photo by Jim Mills

I talked with Al and Sue Liebetrau this month. Most of you know them as our 1st Vice President and the Program Chairperson. As far as I know, together with Paul Asman, they are the sole remaining original club members and have a long history of involvement in the rock hobby.

Sue was a rockhound first. Fifty-six years ago, on their honeymoon, they visited some Michigan copper mine tailings, found native copper, and Al was hooked. They were both educators in the Midwest at the time. Both did graduate work at Oregon State University, when Al received a scholarship there. This provided them the opportunity to travel in summers to the Northwest, collecting on their way, trading Midwest rocks in the Northwest in the summer and trading Northwest rocks for Midwest rocks in the winter

Both eventually took jobs at Battelle in Richland, Washington. Sue worked as an editor and Al worked as a statistician. Shortly before retirement, Al took an assignment for 3 years at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria, facilitating their collecting habit. They moved to Powell Butte in 2002 when Al's assignment was over.

Since then, they have been very busy. Sue edited numerous publications for Lithographie, one of which was the book American Mineral Treasures. Al has been President of the Fluorescent Mineral Society and Sue is currently Secretary of the Friends of Mineralogy. They have displayed at many shows and have judged displays at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show. They have won numerous awards at that show, including the prestigious Desautels Award, given for the best mineral display. Among others, they won the Lester Ziehan award for the best display of minerals at the 2013 NFMS show in Kennewick and have won AFMS trophies for displays of crystals and fluorescent minerals.

They say they especially like fluorite, but after seeing their collection, I will say they like everything. Between them is a wealth of knowledge on all things mineral; take time to get to know them.

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## **Editorial**

**As Del Walker has often said, clubs thrive with volunteers and die from the lack of same. Please consider where you can volunteer.**

This month we need folks to work with and help Don Ross create a display at the Redmond Library. He is looking for local materials to highlight the club and the rockhound opportunities available here in Oregon. He would like to see especially the rough rock together with a finished product from that type of rock. Call Don at 541-604-5741 or email [donross1949@gmail.com](mailto:donross1949@gmail.com) if you would help.

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## **Classified Ads:**

**For Sale:** 6500 lbs of Davis Creek Rainbow and Grey-banded obsidian. \$2.00/lb, less for tonnage. Call Jack Benedict. 541-973-8975

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If you have a rockhound related object you wish to sell, send the announcement to Jules Wetzel [jjwetzel@bendbroadband.com](mailto:jjwetzel@bendbroadband.com) and we'll post it. Remember – this newsletter goes on our website. If you don't want your address, phone number or email address posted, submit your ad with only the specific contact information you do want published.

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CENTRAL OREGON ROCK COLLECTORS (CORC)  
2016 MEMBERSHIP FORM

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NAMES OF ADD'L FAMILY MEMBERS (+AGES IF UNDER 18):

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about CORC? (*new members only*)

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**NOTE:** Annual dues are \$20/individuals and \$25/families. If you are paying by check:  
Make your check out to **Central Oregon Rock Collectors** and mail it to:  
**Attn: Marty Betsch, 61561 Eastlake Drive, Bend, OR 97702.**

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