



January, 2017

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

The **CENTRAL OREGON ROCK COLLECTORS** (CORC) is an informal group dedicated to sharing the rock hound hobby. We meet for field trips, collecting rocks, monthly programs, 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 CORC.

Visit **OUR WEBSITE** at <http://www.corockcollectors.com>

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PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR: Open	
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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 3rd 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.

November Potluck/Meeting:

The November Potluck was a rousing success with much better attendance than in previous years. We had several vendors, beautiful gifts, and good food.

Field Trips:

We are still looking for a Field Trip chair and committee members. If anyone is willing to chair or participate in this committee please contact Elizabeth Prindle, email address above, and let her know.

- Whitemans are planning to lead a field trip to the McDermitt area in May. (petrified wood, agate and possibly thunderegg) More detail and probable dates should be available at the March meeting.

Upcoming Programs:

Programs at this point are in a bit of a limbo, since we haven't had any volunteers to chair or work on the agenda. If you have ideas, or are willing to contribute, please contact Sue Liebetrau at liebetrauam@msn.com

- **The March meeting program** will be a show and tell by the membership. Bring your prize from last year and expect to see a wide assortment of interesting finds and great crafts.

Introducing Our Incoming President and Vice President

Incoming President Elizabeth Prindle

I grew up in NE Ohio and collected crinoid stem fragments and rocks from the creek on our farm and had a shoebox of rocks under the bed like most kids, but I wasn't really "into" rocks beyond that. I moved to Bend in 1993, and soon visited Richardson's. That did it! I was hooked on Oregon rocks. I attended the Madras Pow Wow at some point, where I met Jerry & Stephanie Brown, who told me about CORC. The club didn't have much of a presence then, so I was glad to find them.

Now my home is being overtaken by rocks inside & out! I have traveled all over Oregon, as well as Idaho, Nevada, and Utah, in search of topaz, trilobites, opals, garnets, and many varieties of thunderegg. I have been learning lapidary arts as well as silversmithing. I also teach leathercrafting at the DIY Cave. I have an 18 inch-slab saw, an 8-inch trim saw with 4 grinding/polishing wheels, a 16-inch flat lap, and 2 tumblers. I also have a pretty nice little mineral specimen collection.

I recently visited Ohio and shipped 70 pounds of colorful Ohio flint back to Bend. Funny I didn't know about it all the years I lived there! Rockhounding has lead me to learning more about geology, minerology and a little chemistry, as well as introducing me to some wonderful people who are now friends. You know what they say: Rockhounds are the nicest people!



Roger Whiteman and Elizabeth Prindle

Elizabeth Prindle photo

Incoming Vice President Roger Whiteman

Roger is a native Oregonian, born in Corvallis, grew up in Prineville, attended Oregon College of Education, where he was an art major. He taught at Mountain View High School in Bend for many years, where his art classes included drawing, painting, design and sculpture, including lost wax casting. He was a leader for the local Boy Scouts for 30 years.

Roger loves jewelry making, and uses the lost wax method to create findings for cabochons he bought. He prefers free-form cabs, which got him into the lapidary arts. He has been doing lapidary work since 1995.

Roger and his wife Jan are members of both the Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club and the Central Oregon Rock Collectors. They have been the organizing influence for our clubs trips to Succor Creek in 2015 and McDermitt in 2016.

Of Interest:

The following article was referred to me by Sue Liebetrau. She forwarded a couple of websites that had complete write-ups on this story. I took the liberty to copy the introductory part of the one web article. For those interested further, please check the web at:

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/12/08/504547291/99-million-year-old-baby-dinosaurs-tail-encased-in-amber-surfaces-in-myanmar>

OR

'Beautiful' dinosaur tail found preserved in amber BBC News - Dec 8, 2016

<http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-38224564>

Baby Dinosaur's 99 Million-year-old Tail, Encased in Amber, Surfaces in Myanmar

Heard on NPR – All Things Considered

Rae Ellen Bichell

In 2015, Lida Xing was visiting a market in northern Myanmar when a salesman brought out a piece of amber about the size of a pink rubber eraser. Inside, he could see a couple of ancient ants and a fuzzy brown tuft that the salesman said was a plant.

As soon as Xing saw it, he knew it wasn't a plant. It was the delicate, feathered tail of a tiny dinosaur.

"I have studied paleontology for more than 10 years and have been interested in dinosaurs for more than 30 years. But I never expected we could find a dinosaur in amber. This may be the coolest find in my life," says Xing, [a paleontologist](#) at China University of Geosciences in Beijing. "The feathers on the tail are so dense and regular, this is really wonderful."

He persuaded the Dexu Institute of Palaeontology to buy the artifact.

After analyzing the delicate tail, Xing and his colleagues in China, the U.K. and Canada now have an idea of what type of dinosaur it is, and of the evolutionary clues it holds. Their research [was published](#) Thursday in the journal *Current Biology*.

They say that 99 million years ago, a baby dinosaur about the size of a sparrow got stuck in tree resin and never made it out. Had the young dinosaur had a more auspicious day, it would have grown up to be a little smaller than an ostrich.

The young [coelurosaur](#), nicknamed "Eva," is closely related to iconic meat-eaters *Tyrannosaurus rex* and *Velociraptor*, which chases the kids around the kitchen in *Jurassic Park*.

"A lot of baby birds look kinda creepy, to be honest. This one was probably fairly cute and fuzzy. Not your terror-of-*Jurassic-Park* type," says [Ryan McKellar](#), curator of invertebrate paleontology at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum in Canada and a co-author on the paper.



A baby dinosaur's tail is encased in amber along with ants, a beetle and plant fragments.

Ryan McKellar/Royal Saskatchewan Museum

The tail's dense feathers spread off to the sides, making it look flat. Vertebrae the size of grains of rice allowed the animal to swing it around (the curving tail was a major tip-off for Xing that this was no bird; the vertebrae of modern birds are fused into a rod). "So it's a tiny, whip-like tail," says McKellar.

It's rare to find fossil feathers attached to the spine they came from, which is what allows paleontologists to pin them firmly on the evolutionary tree.

"It's a spectacular little glimpse," McKellar says. "It gives us, basically, a pathway that gets us to modern feathers." And the story of [how feathers evolved](#) has been an area of debate for some time now.

{And as Paul Harvey might have said:

Check out the NPR website (above) for the rest of the story}

- editor

November, 2016 Draft Minutes:

Approximately 32 members and guests attended the Holiday Celebration on November 20, 2016, at the Powell Butte Community Center. Club members enjoyed the delicious food and the gift exchange. Many browsed the rock-related items that club members had for sale. Thanks to all who helped make this popular event a success.

The election of club president and vice president was held. Congratulations to Elizabeth Prindle, the new club president, and Roger Whiteman, the new club vice president. Deb Simon has offered to chair the Field Trip Committee if no-one else steps forward.

A volunteer is still needed to chair the Program Committee. Please consider contacting one of the club officers.

- Suzie Meeker, secretary

Reminders:

Marty Betsch wishes to remind members that 2017 dues are due and payable by the March meeting. You need to pay dues in order to get our name tag/membership card that you can show to get the discounts our corporate members are offering.

Membership forms are available on our website <http://www.corockcollectors.com> . Please use the form when paying dues if you have address, telephone, email, etc. changes from last year so we can keep our records updated.

The club is always looking for members willing to help. Please offer to step in where-ever you can volunteer.

Business Cards:

[We are more than happy to include members rock-related business cards in this section.]



Canutts Gems is offering a 5% discount to members showing a CORC membership card

Classified Ads: If you have a rockhound related object you wish to sell, send the announcement to Jules Wetzel jjwetzel@bendbroadband.com and we'll post it. 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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