

SEPTEMBER 2023

corc.rocks@gmail.com

CENTRAL OREGON ROCK COLLECTORS NEWSLETTER

It's in our name...It's what we do...We collect rocks!!!



CORC 2023 Annual Picnic

We had a great turnout at this years picnic, despite the smoky conditions. It was an excellent time to get together and talk rocks as well as just having fun together. We have a raffle and silent auction for our main fundraisers for the club. After the expenses we made about \$1000 this year!!! Thank you to all who pitched in to help. It is very appreciated and we couldn't have done it without you!



THANK
YOU



The Birthstone for September is: Sapphire

The reason the sapphire is so loved:



Sapphire's blue can be vivid and saturated, like it's lit from within

It's so durable, synthetic sapphire is used for the windows of supermarket scanners and spacecraft.

Sapphire often contains delicate intersecting needles of rutile that gemologists call silk.

Sapphire is a precious gemstone, a variety of the mineral corundum.

Corundum is a crystalline form of aluminium oxide (Al_2O_3) typically containing traces of iron, titanium, vanadium and chromium. It is a rock-forming mineral. It is a naturally transparent material, but can have different colors depending on the presence of transition metal impurities in its crystalline structure. Corundum has two primary gem varieties: ruby and sapphire. Rubies are red due to the presence of chromium, and sapphires exhibit a range of colors depending on what transition metal is present. A rare type of sapphire, padparadscha sapphire, is pink-orange.



Raw Sapphire from Madagascar



Raw Sapphire



Synthetic Sapphire

The name sapphire is derived via the Latin sapphirus from the Greek sappheiros which referred to lapis lazuli. It is typically blue, but natural "fancy" sapphires also occur in yellow, purple, orange, and green colors; "parti sapphires" show two or more colors. Red corundum stones also occur, but are called rubies rather than sapphires. Pink-colored corundum may be classified either as ruby or sapphire depending on locale. Commonly, natural sapphires are cut and polished into gemstones and worn in jewelry. They also may be created synthetically in laboratories for industrial or decorative purposes in large crystal boules. Because of the remarkable hardness of sapphires – 9 on the Mohs scale (the third hardest mineral, after diamond at 10 and moissanite at 9.5) – sapphires are also used in some non-ornamental applications, such as infrared optical components, high-durability windows, wristwatch crystals and movement bearings, and very thin electronic wafers, which are used as the insulating substrates of special-purpose solid-state electronics such as integrated circuits and GaN-based blue LEDs.

www.gia.edu
www.wikipedia.org
gemstoneguru.com
etsystatic.com
sapphire-framework.org



My Latest Trip to Petersen Rock Gardens and Museum

by Tonia Smith

I recently had the chance to visit Petersen Rock Gardens and Museum. It had been close to 20 years since the last time I visited. I'd forgotten all the memories I have from there over my lifetime.



I can't remember the first time I visited the Gardens. I was a young child at the time. The earliest visit I remember was the summer I was 10. It was towards the end of July. My dad and uncle took my sister, cousin and myself. I remember my dad buying us little toy horses



*"Enjoy yourself
It is later than you think"*

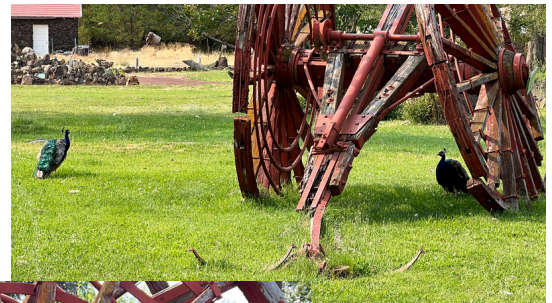
I know I visited the Gardens a few more times when my sister and I would come stay with my grandfather, uncle, aunt and cousins. I don't remember those visits very well.

My next memory of Petersen Rock Gardens was when I moved to Redmond with my husband and 3 year daughter. One of the first things I did was take them to Petersen Rock Gardens. It was a wonderful experience to share with them. Like me, this was where our daughter fell in love with rocks.

We visited often when our daughter was little. Then Petersen Rock Gardens fell into disrepair.



from the gift shop and carrying them as we explored the Gardens. It was a beautiful summer day, looking at the rock sculptures with people I loved. What I didn't fully understand at the time was that would be the last adventure I would have with my dad.

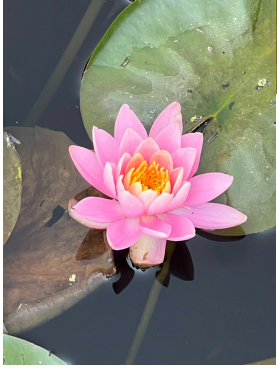


*Yes, the
peacocks
are still
there.*

Suzie Meeker stopped by to see it last year and it had fallen into disrepair



The pond still has lily pads and frogs



In May this year, Petersen Rock Gardens and Museum had a weekend clean up. They are still working on some things on their list, but the Gardens are receiving visitors once again.



A couple weeks ago, my friend's daughter and I had the opportunity to visit. While all the memories came flooding back, this visit was different. I have always loved rocks and love that someone took the time and effort to make sculptures out of them, but this time I knew what the rocks in those beautiful sculptures are and where they most likely came from. It was a neat experience sharing my newfound rock knowledge with my friend's daughter. We had a wonderful time exploring the grounds and taking pictures.

We were lucky to have the museum open the day we were there and spend time exploring that also. They still have the dark room with the fluorescent display. I counted 20 visitors during our time there.



Cannot believe this is still standing!

Rasmus Petersen started his vision in 1935. I don't remember the exact date he turned it into an attraction for visitors to enjoy, but it has been over 70 years ago. If you have not visited this little gem, or have not visited in a long time, I encourage you to do so. Make sure to check out the museum. Along with rocks and the fluorescent display, you'll find the history of Petersen Rock Gardens and Museum.

The Garden's are open everyday, 10-6. The museum is not open every day yet as they are still working on some things, but if you see a staff member around ask them nicely if they will open the museum. There's a good chance they will.



While there, don't forget to sign the visitor book inside this rock structure on the left.

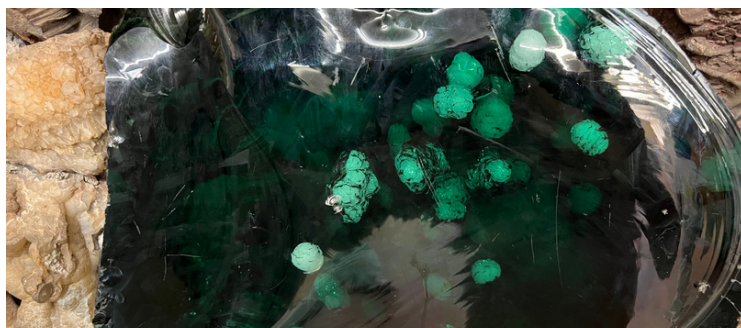


website: petersenrockgarden.org

Their Facebook page has not updated in years, but there is a Friends of Petersen Rock Gardens that is current and has some nice pictures and videos.



Above: A few of my favorite rocks from Petersen Rock Gardens



Right: A few of my favorite rocks from the museum





illustrations of.com #1047632

OREGON COUNCIL OF ROCK AND MINERAL CLUBS

HAMPTON BUTTE WORK PARTY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

ALL MEMBER CLUBS ARE INVITED TO HELP WITH SITE
RESTORATION ON NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

QUESTIONS - DAVE WILLIAMS - IGNEOUS80@Q.COM

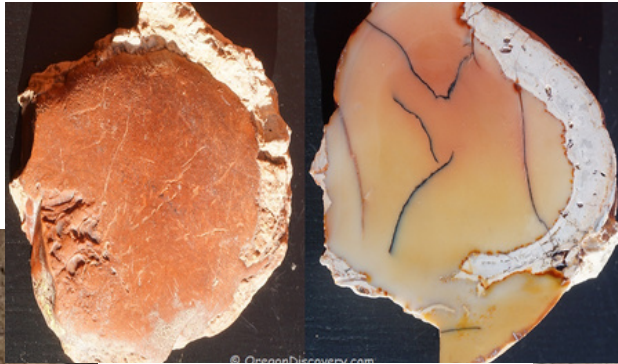
OR 541-677-9341 (NO TEXTS)

Meet at the Brothers Rest Area on Highway 20 (MP 42.8) east of Bend @8:00 am or at the site @9:00 am. Bring lunch, water and your field gear. Be prepared for hot or cold high desert fall weather. You will also need a long handle shovel and short tine rake. We will fill and level earlier digs. The ground is soft and the holes are less than 24" deep.

Directions from Brothers Rest Area – Take Highway 20 east to Van Lake Road. Turn north and follow Van Lake Road 10.5 - 11 miles to SE Price/Twelve Mile Road and turn right. Follow Price Road about 2 miles to the site. It is 22 miles one way from the Brothers Rest Area to Hampton Butte.

Field Trip Dates

Sunday, September 10th White Fir Thundereggs - We are meeting at 8:30 AM on Sunday September 10th, at Ray's Market in Prineville. The road to the site is well graveled and is suitable for all vehicles. Just avoid the potholes! Plan to bring digging tools. To get the best thundereggs you will need to go up some steep inclines but the digging site is not far from the road.



Pictures from
oregondiscovery.com



Saturday, October 14th Club Claim Agate

Family Science Fair

Barnes Butte Elementary School in Prineville is looking for someone to have a rock display table at their Family Science Night in October. They would like to have a variety of rocks on display have the person to stay to give information about the rocks and answer questions. They would love it if the families could pick up the rocks, examine them and learn about this part of Earth Science. It's tentatively schedule for October 9th, 5:00-6:30.

If you are interested, please contact Becky Brauer, Assistant Principal Barnes Butte Elementary.
Becky.Brauer@crookcountyschools.org

Next Club Meeting Date

September 20th

"Now That I Have These Rocks What Do I Do With Them" by Marty & Gale
Marty & Gale ask members to send them pictures of their rock related craft projects and jewelry. Email to mmbetsch@centurylink.net

Doors open at 5:30 PM for visiting

Meeting starts at 6 PM

*Those that won a door prize last month please bring a door prize this month.

Meetings are held every third Wednesday of every month from March through October at the OSU Extension Service Building

3800 SE Airport Way Bldg 3 "The Annex"

Redmond, OR at 6:00 PM. The only exception is August when CORC has its annual picnic. In November, CORC has its annual holiday party. The club does not meet from December through February.

Meeting minutes can be found at corockcollectors.com



Upcoming Area Rock Shows

October 6-8 42nd Annual Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show
Wingspan Event Center Building at Westside Commons
Hillsboro, OR
Contact Person: Linda Harvey - lindaharvey2010@gmail.com

For more Rock Shows please check out the February 2023 Newsletter

REMINDER:

Please mail membership form and check to:
Central Oregon Rock Collectors (CORC)
P.O. Box 6265
Bend, OR 97708

Annual membership dues are \$20 for individuals, \$25 for household
and \$5 for juniors.

You may find the form on our website at corockcollectors.com

OR

**You may now go to our website corockcollectors.com to pay your
membership dues online. Click on the Membership page.**

Club website: corockcollectors.com

Please join our Facebook page:
Central Oregon Rock Collectors

If you have any
ideas for field trips please
email Ken Lawson & Suzie
Meeker at
corc.rocks@gmail.com

CORC Board Members

April Anable
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Vice President

Tonia Smith
Secretary

Nancy Johnston
Treasurer

Tonia Smith
Co-Newsletter Editor

Nancy Johnston
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Co-Field Trip Chair

Gale Rivera
Co-Program Committee Chair

Marty Betsch
Co-Program Committee Chair

Barb Thompson
Claims Chair

April Anable
Social Media & Webmaster

If you would like to reach any of the board members please email them at
corc.rocks@gmail.com

Business cards and announcements

Richardson Dry Sander with polish, tile saw and shop vac \$350
Seller Sue Liebetrau. Call Marty Betsch (541) 410-1302



Lortone 2 wheel grinder with polisher.
Has makeshift water added. \$500 OBO
Seller Sue Leibetrau.
Call Marty Betsch (541)410-1302



CigarboxRock

The temporary office is a "job shack"
located at 63273 Nels Anderson Rd.

Give us a call before coming in!
Currently open: Tuesday-Saturday
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

CORC members receive
a discount at CigarboxRock!

CBR@BENDNET.COM

Call (541)389-9663 or visit our website,
<https://cigarboxrock.com>

Classified Ads: If you have a rockhound-related item you wish to advertise, send the announcement to Tonia Smith and Nancy Johnston at corcrocks@gmail.com