

CENTRAL OREGON ROCK COLLECTORS



Greetings CORC,

Fall is upon us and the weather has been great for a little rockhounding. I hope you are all getting out and having some fun! I just spent a week at the beach, and my handful of tiny agates I brought home sure makes me appreciate the bounty of treasures Central Oregon holds.

We recently asked for your feedback via an online survey. Thank you to those who have taken the time to share your thoughts. If you have not responded yet and would like to do so, the survey is available here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/rn8veTVmcr>

I wanted to take an opportunity to address some of the questions and feedback that came up, a FAQ section, if you will.

Does CORC provide physical membership cards?

No. The board made the decision a few years ago to discontinue membership cards as the benefits of a card were outweighed by the cost and time to produce them. CigarBoxRock Lapidary in Bend provides members with a discount, however, they are provided with a list of member names and no card is required to receive this discount.

Does the club have a social platform?

Yes! The club owns and maintains the Central Oregon Rock Collectors Facebook group, which currently has over 12,000 members. We encourage club members to participate here as an additional way to connect with your fellow club members and the rockhounding community here in Oregon. While club membership is not required to join the Facebook group, this serves as a great outreach tool.

What if I can't attend a meeting in person? Does the club livestream the meetings?

Yes! Club meetings are live streamed in our Facebook group.

Does the club have a members only online portal?

No, we do not have a members only website, and do not plan to create one in the near future as the maintenance of such a platform with nearly 400 members would be monumental. We do, however, have a club website, corockcollectors.com, in addition to the Facebook group. On the website you can find information about the club, including our bylaws, membership forms and online payment system, past newsletters, meeting minutes, event calendar, as well as a resources page with links to various areas of interest. If you have a favorite website or YouTube video you would like to share, we are always looking to expand our knowledge base!

Is CORC a family friendly club?

Yes! CORC membership is made up of a diverse range of ages and backgrounds. We encourage families and children to join us for meetings and field trips and currently have over 40 junior members. It is vitally important that the love and knowledge of rockhounding be passed on to younger generations and besides, what is better than the joy in a child's face when they find a pretty rock?

Are there people who know first aid on field trips?

Yes! Our field trip leaders, wearing orange vests, have all been first aid and CPR certified. They carry first aid kits and radios to communicate with each other if needed.

Does the club do overnight field trips?

In past years, yes, there was usually at least one overnight/multi day field trip. We did not have an overnight field trip leader this year. If you are interested in being a part of our field trip committee and leading overnight trips, please let us know!

How can I get more involved with the club?

The club is operated entirely by volunteers who love rocks and sharing our passion with others. We won't sugarcoat it, sometimes it can be overwhelming running a club of this size, particularly with the growing pains we have experienced in recent years. I have always said that the club will be what its members make it. So, what do you want your club to look like? Step up and make it happen! Do you have a particular skill or knowledge base that would be interesting for members to learn about? Volunteer to give a program or teach a class! Do you know a particular area really well? Offer to lead a field trip there! Do you enjoy baking? No one is saying no to those chocolate chip cookies at meetings! Do you have a favorite rock you want to share with everyone (who doesn't)? Bring it for show and tell! Help with

clean up and event set up is always welcome. The board will always try to ask for specific help where we know it's needed, but there are so many other ways you can get involved, even if it's just showing up!

Thank you again for all of your feedback, it is so very much appreciated! As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Rock On!
April

2025-2026 CORC President and Vice President Elections

The election for CORC President and Vice President will take place at our October 16th meeting.

Here are the members who will be running...



Tonia Smith - President



Nancy Johnston - Vice President



Polka Dot Agate Mine Field Trip

We had a great time
at Polka Dot Agate
Mine on September
14th! Matt, Brian and
the Crew were very
helpful and
knowledgeable.
Thank you to all of
them for the great
experience!



STATE BY STATE ROCKS, GEMS, MINERALS

MICHIGAN



State Gemstone: Isle Royale Greenstone



Isle Royale Greenstones hold a timeless place in Michigan's vibrant cultural and mining legacy. The majority of gem-quality greenstones in today's jewelry can be traced back to the remnants of ancient mines on Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. The pursuit of these enigmatic and scarce greenstones has always captivated enthusiasts.

Also known as U.P. Thomsonite, this mineral gains its unique color from copper within the center of the

inclusions. Some Greenstones have quartz or calcite centers, while others are hollow. The color and pattern tends to change throughout the depth of the stone as well. All of these factors make cutting and sanding the gems tricky, and only skilled stone cutters should attempt the process.



State Stone: Petoskey Stone



A Petoskey stone is a fossilized coral that is the state stone of Michigan. It is known for its distinctive honeycomb pattern, which is actually the skeleton of ancient coral polyps.

Distinguishable by its unique exoskeleton structure, a Petoskey stone consists of tightly packed, six-sided

corallites, which are the skeletons of the once-living coral polyps. The center of each polyp was the mouth and contained tentacles that reached out for food.

When dry, Petoskey stones look like limestone, but when wet or polished, they reveal their distinctive pattern. You can buy polished Petoskey stones at tourist shops.



The stones are named after the Ottawa Chief Pe-to-se-ga (Rising Sun) because their pattern resembles the sun's rays.



MINNESOTA

State Gemstone: Lake Superior Agate

The Lake Superior agate is noted for its rich red, orange, and yellow coloring. This color scheme is caused by the oxidation of iron. Iron leached from rocks provides the pigment that gives the gemstone its beautiful array of colors. The concentration of iron and the amount of oxidation determine the color within or between an agate's bands. There can also be white, grey, black, and tan strips of color as well.



The gemstone comes in various sizes. The gas pockets in which the agates formed were primarily small, about 1 cm in diameter. A few Lake Superior agates have been found that are 22 cm in diameter with a mass exceeding 10 kilograms. Very large agates are extremely rare.

The most common type of Lake Superior agate is the fortification agate with its eye-catching banding patterns. Each band, when traced around an exposed pattern or "face," connects with itself like the walls of a fort, hence the name fortification agate.

QUICK FACT

Australian Opals

Australian opals have a spectacular colour spectrum, which gives the gemstones an intense and mystical appearance known as opalescence. Due to the unique combinations of colour in the stone's appearance, a fine, exceptional opal can be regarded as more valuable than a diamond.

Although opals can be found all around the world, there are only a few major sources of this gemstone. Australian opals account for 95% of the world's supply. Unique geological formations in Australia have favored the formation of this sedimentary stone.

References:

statesymbolsusa.org geology.com gemsociety.org kingsleynorth.com
bethmillner.com google.com gisgeography.com

Our next Club Meeting is:

October 16th

**Doors open at 5:30 PM for socializing
Meeting starts at 6 PM**

**Roger Severson
“What is This Rock?”
*Don't forget about Show and Tell!**

***Those who won a door prize at our last meeting please bring one this meeting.**

**Meetings are held the 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 PM.
The only exception is when CORC has its annual picnic in July or August. 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

Field Trips

**October 12th - Saturday Ochoco Amigos, CORC claim
Agates, moss agates, jasper, crystals**

**We will meet in Prineville in Ray's parking lot at 7 AM. We
will have a quick safety meeting then head up to the
claim.**

**We plan to go to the rock shop and lunch in
Mitchell afterwards.**

Membership

2024 CORC Board Members

April Anable
President

Patricia Moreland
Vice President

Tonia Smith
Secretary

Nancy Johnston
Treasurer

Ken Lawson
Co-Field Trip Committee
Chair

Eric Smith
Co-Field Trip Committee
Chair

Barb Thompson
Claims Committee Chair

Scott "Plaid" Peterson
Program Committee Chair

Renewals are due by April 30th.

You may now go to our website
corockcollectors.com to pay your
membership dues online.

Click on the
Membership page. It will take you
to Cheddarup. Follow the
instructions to fill out the
membership form and make
your payment.

Or you may print off the membership form
instead and mail it with a check.

Central Oregon Rock Collectors (CORC)
4817 SW Volcano Ave
Redmond, OR 97756

Non Board Members

Tonia Smith
Nancy Johnston
Newsletter Editors

April Anable
Social Media
Webmaster

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

If you have questions, please
contact Tonia at
corc.rocks@gmail.com

***If you would like to contact a board member please email
corc.rocks@gmail.com**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CigarBoxRock Lapidary
63291 Nels Anderson Rd
Bend, Or

Open Tuesday- Saturday
9:00am - 3:00 PM

CBR@Bendnet.com

541-389-9663 Or 541-280-5574

Follow us Facebook and Instagram

Cigarboxrock.com

Save the Date

Snowflake Boutique

November 1st (1-8) and November 2nd (9-5)

Deschutes County Fair and Expo Center
Redmond, OR 97756

South Sister Building

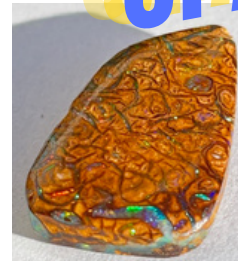
**www.snowflakeboutique.org
for more information**

There will be a number of CORC members
selling their Rock creations at the show.

Please come and show your support.

There is a \$4 charge at the door which
will go to help the
Senior Center of Redmond
along with other charities.

AUSTRALIAN OPALS



Our own CORC member
Brenda from Australia will
be visiting at our October
CORC meeting. She has
brought with her opals that
are for sale to the club.
They range in prices from
\$10 to \$600.

If you would like to contact
her prior to the meeting
please email
corc.rocks@gmail.com

FOR SALE

To post an announcement or ad in the
CORC newsletter please email
corc.rocks@gmail.com.

You must be a current member to do so.