



The Official Newsletter of the GPAA

The Prospector

Volume 15 Issue 02

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February, 2015

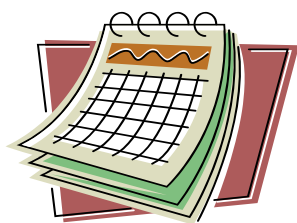
Chapter Meeting:

February, 15th 2015

At the
Milwaukie, Oregon
Grange Hall
12015 S.E. 22nd

**Meeting Begins at
--- 1:30 ---**

Dates to Remember...



February, 2015

Our next meeting:

On February 15th 2015

For every 2 cans of food you bring
in you can get 1 ticket for our
\$1.00 drawing up to 5 tickets



The Presidential Post

Portland Gold Prospectors

February 2015

From the President's Desk

Are You Ready?

Come join us on Sunday, February 15th. You won't want to miss it – we're going to have "hands on" panning / demonstration with lots of folks to show /instruct you on how to perfect your panning skills.

If you missed the banquet last month – you missed a lot of fun and good food. I think I can speak for all – it truly was a great time.

We will be going over our Outing Schedule with dates, please join us.

If you have a donation item for the Gold Show Back Pack – please bring it to this meeting – we need your contributions.

As most know, GPAA's Gold Show will be at the Expo Center in Portland this coming year (Mar 28, 29) and we're working with other local chapters to make it a great success. If you know of vendors and/or groups that would be interested in participating, please let us know.

If you have friends, co-workers or others interested in learning about prospecting, invite them to join us and find out if it's something they'd like to do as well.

This is a great year to be prospecting and having fun and you can profit by others involvement and even find some gold. Remember memories become golden with time.

Sincerely,

David Chiara

Portland Gold Prospectors, Inc.

Secretary's Report Jan 18th, 2015

Milwaukie Grange Hall, 12015 SE 22nd Milwaukie, OR

Meeting called to order by President Dave Chiara at 1:35PM

Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

Attendance:

65 total attendees.

13 visiting guests in attendance.

Meeting minutes:

A **Motion** was made and seconded to accept the Secretary's report as written and published in the newsletter.

The motion was approved by the Association body.

Treasury report: Beverly Parker

The Treasury report was read by the Treasurer to the association.

A **Motion** was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as written

Due to our annual Banquet, the business meeting was abbreviated to support the rotation of officers and Board members and critical business items.

Retiring Officers: President Dave Chiara

Two new officers were elected in the November meeting. These officers were inaugurated during the January Meeting.

- Bob Burns who has been our Vice President for multiple terms has decided to step down from his position in 2015. Bob was thanked by the association President for his many years of support. Bob will continue to support the Association in the role of a Board member at large.
- Jerry Johns who has been the Association Secretary for the past 3+ years will be stepping into the Vice President Role. Jerry was also thanked for his support in 2014.
- New Board members in 2015 will be Bob Burns (formerly V.P), Penny Parsons and Charlie Foster. Bill Bench was re-elected for a two year term as a Board member.

Claims: The club continues to work on events and outing for 2015. First half of the year has been determined. (See below)

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Gold and Treasure Show | March 28 th – 29 th |
| • Beverly Beach (Oregon) | April 12 th |
| • McMinnville UFO Festival (Fund raiser) | May 15 th -16 th |
| • Day Break Park (Washington) | June 14 th |
| • T.Y. ROY (Oregon) | June / July |

The remainder of the time was spent on the annual Banquet. Thanks to everyone for joining us!

(Respectfully submitted by Jerry Johns, Secretary)

Be on my committee

Outings See Ken Burns

Need volunteers to help check out, select and run outing events.

Newsletter & Emails

If you have not been receiving the Newsletter by Email,

Please email us at portlandgpaa@aol.com

Don't forget, you can also download the Newsletter from our website.

www.portlandgoldprospectors.org

Article of the Month

Oregon Gemstones

Please be aware it is illegal to alter, damage, or destroy an archeological site on any lands, per

[Oregon Revised Statute 358.920.](#)

Thunderegg

The thunderegg is Oregon's state rock.

Oregon's state rock can be collected at fee and free sites in central and southeastern Oregon. Unimpressive on the outside, these spherical rocks contain colorful silicic material and, when sliced and polished, make beautiful collector's items.

For information on places to collect in central Oregon, contact

Madras Chamber of Commerce, 197 SE 5th St., Madras OR 97741, phone 541-475-2350;

Prineville Chamber of Commerce, 390 North Fairview, Prineville, OR 97754, phone 541-447-6304,

In Southeastern Oregon contact the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), 100 Oregon Street, Vale OR 97918, phone (541) 473-3144,

To find out more about Thunderegg Days (held for five days around the first of June), in Nyssa, contact the Nyssa Chamber of Commerce at (541) 372-3091.

[More on Thunderegg sites in Oregon](#)

Maps and publications about Oregon's Geology and its geologic treasures are available from the Nature of the Northwest Information Center, operated by the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. Nature of the Northwest is open 9 am to 12:30 pm and 1 to 4 pm, Monday through Friday at:

800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 965, Portland, Oregon 97232

phone (971) 673-2331, fax (971) 673-1562.

Web address: <http://www.naturenw.org>.

Ok now we got the legal information out of the way, The great NW has a very large variety of gemstones. They range from Agates to Thunderegg and a whole bunch in between. It is amazing to me that we can make money from rocks? Doesn't that sound silly? But it's true! We go out and dig around working very hard at moving mountains of rock and dirt, still working, we move the dirt and filter out the gold, silver, copper or whatever other metal might be there. Then we melt it down or sell it. Or maybe we just keep it so we can look at it for a long time, memory's we gather along with the hard work. Sometimes we can look at a vile of gold and know just when and where it came from, It truly is amazing.

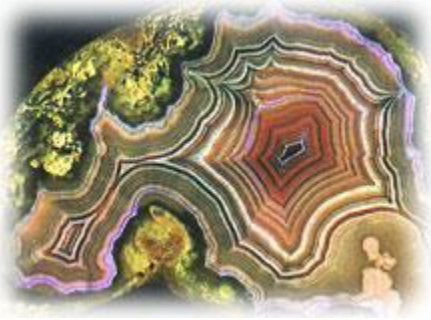
Then I started watching a program that I found by accident, (It's called Prospectors.) and it's on the weather channel, it's about a few prospectors in the Colorado Rockies looking for Gemstones. Some I can't remember but things like Smoky Quartz, Topaz, and Amazonite, I think that last one is spelled right but not sure. Anyway they go up in the Rocky Mountains anywhere from 8,000 to almost 14,000 feet up and prospect. Fighting all kinds of things from claim jumpers to the weather. The weather can go from a 70 deg. Day to thunder and lightning and a complete downpour in a matter of 1 or 2 hours with snow or large hail too. They find some amazing finds on every show but not everyone finds something every show. Some only find a few small ones to make the day an ok day.

Then I got to thinking I wonder if there is any worthwhile Gemstones in the NW? We have a few. Agate being one of them and the easiest to find. The sunstone is Oregon's state Gemstone and very pretty.



Sunstone color relates to the amount of copper in the stone – 20 parts per million for yellow, 200 parts per million for red.

Like I said the agate is one of the easiest to find, I can find it along the Willamette River.



As you can see Agate comes in about a gazillion colors

Agate and jasper are part of the chalcedony family, a variety of quartz.

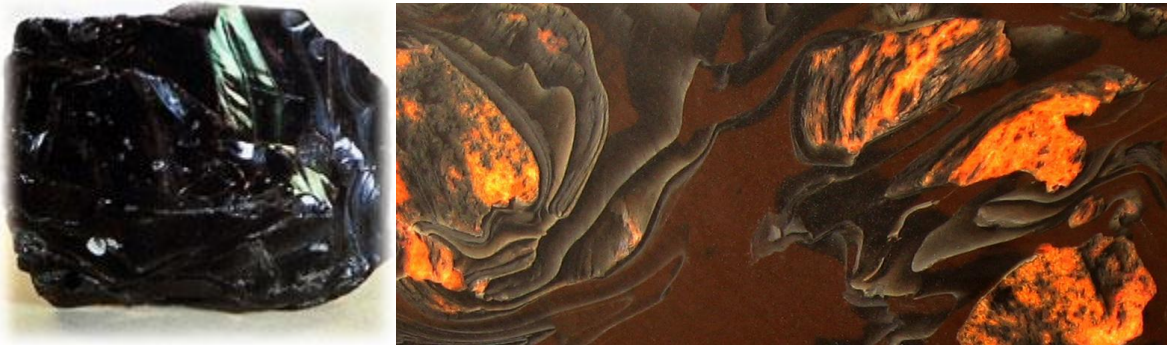


Jasper comes in a few different colors as well, But sometimes the colors can make some amazing scenes. (Don't you think) the one up above is called picture jasper and some of the scenes are truly life like.

Distinctly banded specimens that differ in color and in degree of translucency are called agate; and mottled yellow, red, brown or green chalcedony is called jasper.

Obsidian

This volcanic glass can be collected in central Oregon at Glass Butte (a [rockhounding site](#) on BLM land) on Highway 20 between Bend and Burns. An enormous flow of obsidian can also be seen at Newberry Crater, south and east of Bend, but no collecting is permitted in this national monument.



Sometimes obsidian can come in other colors too. But black is the most common

The edge of obsidian can be flaked to one molecule in thickness, much sharper than any knife or razor edge. I have taken a piece of obsidian and cut a steak with it, and it cut better than any steak knife I have ever had but I didn't want to take a chance and swallow a piece of it so I stopped with just the one small piece and threw it away. But I could imagine back in the day that it would have been a very nice steak knife.

Anyway there are a few more Gemstones in the Great NW, but please be careful and know where you can dig and if you need permits for it. Also there are a few pay to dig sites in Oregon that are pretty good to find a nice Gemstone or two.

As always remember that the internet can be wrong in the information that it has on it. Also information and laws (rules) for one area or another can change in time so before you dig.

CHECK IT OUT FIRST

No matter what you decide to do, remember that sometime the best treasure you can have is the memories you make, the fun you have and a time well spent with friends and family. As always I wish you the best 2015 and please let me know if you have any interests that I might be able to research a little

Oh and hoorayyyyyy for the Ruling for the PLP. Great job guys. Now if we could do something like that in Oregon too.

DON'T FORGET WE NEED DONATIONS FOR THE BACKPACK DRAWINGS!!!!!!!

PICK THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IN THE BACKPACK. IF YOU WOULD LIKE IT OTHERS PROBABLY WOULD TOO.



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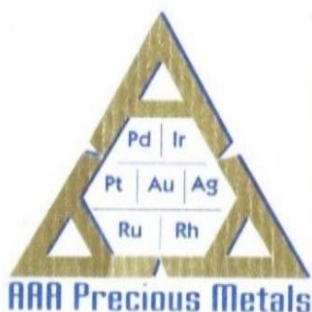
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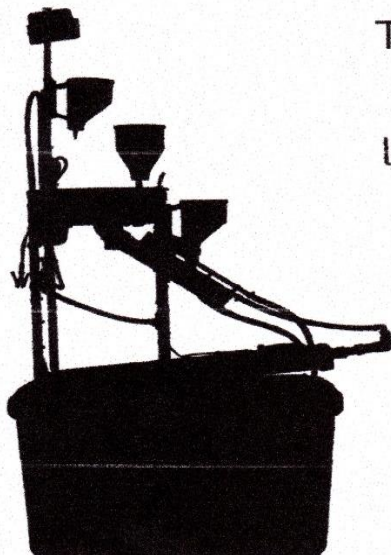


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The WMA is an alliance of miners fighting to restore our legal mining rights. We need all miners to stand together and fight this illegal taking of mining claims and our rights to mine.

If you won't stand up now we will lose all of our rights. We are an organization founded by some of the most experienced miners alive. We are teamed with other organizations fighting to take back our rights for land use, timber management, fishing, hunting and the other activities we, as Americans pay taxes to use.

We are supported by the mining equipment manufacturers; small businessmen; political representatives and of course by our claim holders. As a member of the WMA you will receive:

- Monthly e-mail updates on the legal fight
- Flash messages on critical events
- Access to our published reports on mining districts
- Join the Watershed district and the mining district

Here's a link to more info http://westernminingalliance.org/?page_id=626

GPAA Membership Renewal Credits

	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year	1 Year w/o mining guide
Buzzard Special	1,365	1,820	2,730	
GPAA Membership Renewal	1,365	1,820	2,730	1,365

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WHEN RENEWING, PLEASE WRITE A NOTE OR IF BY PHONE TELL THEM YOU BELONG TO THE PGPI ASSOCIATION OR THE PORTLAND GPAA CHAPTER TO REQUEST OUR ASSOCIATION'S CREDITS.

These credits are used to buy things from the GPAA Catalog. If you do not have a GPAA Catalog, you can go to <http://www.goldprospectors.org/catalog/index.asp?PageName=Catalog> to see what they have available. If there is anything in the Catalog that you would like to have for the raffle, please let one of the board members know.

All members note:

The association earns purchasing points with renewal of GPAA Membership. Please tell them you are a Portland Gold Prospector member

**2015
Board Members**

President: Dave Chiara 503-285-8553 dmchiara@comcast.net	Vice President: Jerry Johns 503-649-4702 Jerry.j.johns@intel.com
Secretary: Melinda Dorning mdorning@frontier.com	Treasurer: Bev Parker 503-666-4301 bevpark@comcast.net
Claims and Outings: Ken Burns 503-631-3071 cruisehl@yahoo.com	Sergeant at Arms: To Be Determined

Board Members At Large

2014-2016

2015-2017

Richard Ruth 503-663-9087 Richard.ruth5@comcast.net	Bill Bench swbench@comcast.net
Joe Weber Joewe001@yahoo.com	Charlie Foster
Robert Burns (2015 only) Rdburns77@hotmail.com	Penny Parsons

Supporting Members

Librarian: Joe Weber Joewe001@yahoo.com	Safety: Jim Dorning mdorning@frontier.com
Equipment: Ken Burns 503-631-3071 cruisehl@yahoo.com	Newsletter: Bill Mutton muttsmining@gmail.com
Hospitality: Helen Burns 503-631-3071 cruisehl@yahoo.com	Webmaster Aaron Jurgens 360-402-0771 aaron@ajcreative.net

The Printed version of this newsletter is just the most important news about
Portland Gold Prospectors Association Meetings.

If you would like to see the entire Newsletter you can have it Emailed to you
Or go to www.PortlandGoldProspectors.org and you can view or download the whole
Newsletter there. I really want to make it very informative and complete, but it would
Be far too expensive to print out the longer version of the newsletter.