

**Official Bulletin
of the
Chugach Gem & Mineral Society**

Alaska Pebble Patter
Chugach Gem & Mineral Society
P.O. Box 92027
Anchorage, AK. 99509-2027
<http://chugachgms.org/>

July - August 2009

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CHUGACH GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.
Box 92027, Anchorage AK 99509-2027
<http://chugachgms.org/>

ELECTED POSITIONS

PRESIDENT

Greg Durocher 337-2553

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Phillip Elrod 349-5457

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Sheila Macias 274-2204

TREASURER

Anita Williams 345-2541

RECORDING SECRETARY

Chris Teutsch 694-6586

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Nancy Danford 694-3288

APPOINTED POSITIONS

PROGRAM

Andre Macias 274-2204

MEMBERSHIP

Bea Allen 696-4047

FIELD TRIP

Bonnie Hepburn 274-0941

SUNSHINE

Dorothy Arnold 279-3876

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Norval Kane 243-4648

FEDERATION LIAISON

Tom Cooper 262-9759

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Sue Hilton 694-1934

sueh@mtaonline.net

CLUB GREETER

Melvin C. Bennett 569-5700

CHUGACH GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY maintains memberships in:
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

CHUGACH GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY MEETINGS ARE HELD AT
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 725 WEST 9TH AVE., ANCHORAGE, AK
(Enter the church from the rear parking lot, south of 8th Avenue between G & H Streets.)

BUSINESS MEETING – 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM.
POTLUCK MEETING – 4th Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM.
Bring an entrée, side dish, salad, or dessert (plus serving utensil) to serve at least 5 people.
Also bring your own plate, silverware and drink.
Most importantly, bring a rock to show!

Annual membership fees: Individuals - \$15.00; Families (2 or more) - \$20.00; Bulletin only - \$10.00
Lifetime membership fees: Individuals - \$150.00; Families (2 adults & children under 18) - \$200.00

- July 31st – August 2nd - Caribou Creek

Old Business

Sheila Macias reminded members that the t-shirt logo contest deadline for submissions was the May potluck.

Sheila also reminded everyone to keep the 50th anniversary theme in mind when planning displays for the Rock Show in November.

Tom Cooper asked about the status of Anita Williams’s nomination for Rockhound of the Year, and Greg said he would look into it.

Sunshine Report: Dorothy Arnold had nothing to report this month.

New Business

Sue Hilton brought up the flooding at Eagle and said she was driving up with donations. After some discussion a motion was made for the club to give \$250; the motion passed unanimously.

Two new members were introduced: Jim Matsey was here from Denver for three months and was looking forward to his stay. Rick Turnbaugh had moved up from Everett and said his wife would join him after selling their home.

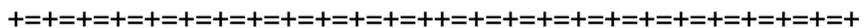
Sheila said that t-shirts were still available for purchase, and interested members could see her during the break.

Norval Kane presented several “Norvalisms” to our great entertainment.

Door prizes were drawn and the business meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The program after the break was Rock Bingo.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbie Turnbow, Recording Secretary pro tem



June Business Meeting

President Greg Durocher called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Membership Chair Katch Bacheller reported a total of 127 members; this was up from 85 members last month.

Treasurer Anita Williams reported that the club accounts were in order.

The May meeting minutes were accepted with minor corrections.

Bonnie Hepburn reported on the Hatcher Pass clean-up and also said that an underground mine tour wasn’t possible due to unsafe conditions, but an August trip to the old ball mill was a likely alternative.

Upcoming Trips:

- June 13th – Wishbone Hill
- June 27th – Pebble Prospect tour
- July 3rd – 5th - Chicken

- July 12th - Golden Zone Mine
- July 18th – 20th - Little Nelchina
- July 31st – August 2nd - Caribou Creek
- A fall date - Cook Inlet Spirit Rocks. The date will be determined by the tide table.
- November 6th – 8th - Rock Show in conjunction with the Alaska Miners Association convention.

Old Business

Three potential t-shirt logos were presented to the club. All three had features which appealed to everyone so it was decided to combine the best of all three into one design.

The question of how the club might best invest its monetary assets to achieve capital preservation was discussed, and then tabled until more information becomes available.

Notice!

Half of the church parking lot is now controlled by Diamond Parking; to avoid paying for parking

use the western part of the lot where there are no blue signs.

The meeting was adjourned after Norval Kane presented some great Norvalisms for our enjoyment.

Following a break, the evening's program was a slide show about Eagle and the flooding.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Teutsch, Recording Secretary

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**Alaskans at the Northwest
Rockhound Retreat, 2008**
By Anita Williams

It is always with mixed emotions that I leave Alaska in the summer. This time though Linda and I packed up our bags and departed for Oregon at the end of August of '08. We'd signed up for the rockhound retreat that the Northwest Federation has been putting on for the past few years. The retreat sounded absolutely fantastic, an adult summer camp for rockhounds. Could life get any better than that? A couple of hundred dollars with change secured us bunks in a cabin in the middle of Oregon, 3 meals a day, and a choice of incredible lapidary classes to take or try (or not) for a full week.

the problem now is dealing with a waiting list! Good job, Lamar.

Since Linda and I were both rank beginners as far as lapidary work was concerned, we just signed up for the basic cut and polish class. I also wanted to try wire wrapping so I would have something to do with all of the fantastic polished cabs I would be producing. The other classes were more like a foreign language to me—intarsia, faceting, silversmithing, beading and judging.

The camp was held at the Hancock Field Station operated by the Oregon Museum of Science & Industry in Portland. It was located near Fossil, Oregon and a name like that was itself a lure to tempt a rockhound. The camp was like a summer camp, bunkhouses, eating-gathering area, rooms for the different classes, and a variety of hiking trails. The lapidary area was great. It was under a shelter, but open to the elements. Pretty neat idea cause the daily messes could be cleaned up a bit easier.



Camp Hancock scenery

Turns out we were the very first folks to sign up for the '08 retreat. Good thing we did because it was a total sell out. The event had finally caught on with the rockhound community after a few sketchy years with Lamar Tilgner keeping it propped up and limping along. That is not a problem any longer—



Lapidary shop at Camp Hancock

