

Alaska Pebble Patter  
Chugach Gem and Mineral Society  
P.O. Box 92027  
Anchorage, AK. 99509-2027

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

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**CHUGACH GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.**  
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<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>PARLIAMENTARIAN</b>
Jean Kane 243-4648	Norval Kane 243-4648
<b>FIELD TRIP</b>	<b>FEDERATION LIAISON</b>
Bonnie Hepburn 274-0941	Tom Cooper 262-9759

THE CHUGACH GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC. maintains memberships in:  
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES  
NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

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THE CHUGACH GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY MEETINGS ARE HELD AT  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
725 WEST 9<sup>TH</sup> AVE., ANCHORAGE, AK  
(Enter the church from the rear parking lot.)

BUSINESS MEETING – 7:30 PM — 2nd Thursday of each month.

POTLUCK MEETING – 6:30 PM — 4th Thursday of each month.

Bring a hot dish, salad, or dessert (plus serving spoon) to serve 5 people.

Also bring your own plate, silverware and drink. But most importantly, bring a rock to show!

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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



## President's Message

March - April 2005

Greetings Everyone,

I guess I could say welcome to the first break-up since it is pouring rain outside right now making a mess of just about everything. This is definitely the most unpleasant time in Alaska. However, it is the harbinger of spring and summer and that brings pleasant thoughts of long days, sunshine, exploring new country and, of course, collecting rocks and minerals. Be sure to check the website for upcoming field trips and meeting programs. I believe the programs are listed under the seminar section on the site.

Thanks to all of the club members that made the Rondy/Iditarod show a success. You all pulled together and did a great job under extremely difficult conditions. Speaking for myself I'm mighty proud of our club.

Our potluck meeting for March will be a silent auction. The auctions are always popular and fun with lots of rocks, minerals and miscellaneous related stuff. Don't forget that if you are a member you can bring samples to put up for auction, so sort through your rock piles. We will also have a table reserved specifically for kids and hopefully we will have some kids to participate in the action. One more thing, the club tee shirts will be available at the potluck meeting. There will be about 4 different colors and a variety of sizes of short and long sleeve shirts available with the club logo. The prices are \$13 for short sleeve and \$15 for long sleeve. By the April business meeting we will also have embroidered-logo denim shirts available for \$25 each. Get them while they are hot off the press!

Our next field trip will be on April 9<sup>th</sup> to the Museum of Natural History in Mountain View. They will have a dinosaur exhibit on display. We will meet at the Museum around 11am and get a tour. There is an entry fee and they have a nice gift shop so bring a few bucks along. It all goes to support the museum, which helps to expose both kids and adults to the wonders of earth sciences. I'll get a little more information and post it on the website. If you attended the business meeting you know that Bonnie has been busy organizing the field trips for the season. Check your calendars and be sure to join us on at least one trip this summer. I might add here that for liability reasons it is necessary to be a club member to participate in any of the field trips. A membership application can be downloaded from the web site.

On May 15<sup>th</sup> plan on joining the club for a community service clean-up trip to Coyote Lake at Sutton. Oh, did I mention that we can also collect fossils there too?

Now for just a tad of business: the club by-laws have been revised and are available for review. If you are interested in doing a review, let me know and I'll get a copy to you. I'd appreciate comments and/or suggestions to incorporate that will make the by-laws both useful and user friendly. They will be presented at the next CGMS Board meeting and if accepted they will be presented to the club for a vote of the membership. Stay tuned.

See you at the auction tables,  
Anita

**Chugach Gem & Mineral Society**  
**February Business Meeting Minutes**

President Anita Williams called the February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005 meeting of the Chugach Gem & Mineral Society to order at 7:45 pm. She thanked all those present for braving the heavy snowfall.

The evening's guest was Tony Anderson, owner of North Star Security Agency.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Recording Secretary - Bea read the minutes of the January business meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer - Outgoing treasurer Greg Durocher prepared and presented copies of statements giving the balances of our various accounts as of years' end for 2002, 2003, and 2004. Treasurer-elect Linda Ewers will assume her duties next month.

Membership - Jean reported 186 paid members.

Corresponding Secretary - Nancy was absent.

Northwest Federation Liaison - Tom was absent.

Sunshine Committee - Dorothy was absent. Bobbie reported that Joe's father was recuperating.

Newsletter - Sue said the current issue of the Pebble Patter was on the website and in the mail. Deadline for the next edition will be March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Website - Adeline reported that the fieldtrip schedule was posted and revisions would be forthcoming.

Scholarship - Steve was absent.

Fundraising - Sheila stated that the Club would have a table at no cost to sell items at the Fur Rondy show in the Ship Creek Mall.

Fieldtrips - Bonnie said she would have plenty of copies of the field trip list available to hand out at our Rondy display. She planned to make

revisions. Some trips were still leaderless and would therefore be tentative.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Fur Rendezvous - Andres and Sheila had arranged for the club to have 2 rooms in the Ship Creek Mall and would need members to help set up and break down the show, and also to display their collections. The dates would be February 24<sup>th</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup>, with breakdown on the 27<sup>th</sup>. There would also be space for displays and tables in the hallway. Our vendors would be Mary Wester, Joe Turnbow, Lynn Henderson and Sheila Macias. Because of poor security last year at Northway Mall, Andres asked our guest, Tony, of North Star Security, to address this issue and state how his company could provide adequate security and at what cost. Tony offered a special rate of \$16 per hour per guard because of our non-profit status, and recommended 2 men for the mall hours of 7 AM to 6 PM for a total of \$704 per guard for 4 days. Andres said he would contact vendors to ask that each contribute an equal amount, and that 100% participation would be required. This would average out to about \$60 for each vendor. Greg moved that the club approve up to \$60 for our share of the costs for security guards. Sheila seconded it, and the motion passed.

Business Cards - Andres and Sheila recommended holding off on having them reprinted because in their search for a source for t-shirts, they found a business that would clean up the logo at low cost with no set-up charge and would save it to disk. This could be used in the printing of cards and also the t-shirts and would be ours to keep and reproduce. Heather moved and Bonnie seconded that we pay the \$35 quoted to clean up and redefine our logo; the motion passed. Heather moved that we allocate \$130 for 1000 business cards. The motion was seconded by Linda and passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Club Archives - Anita suggested that we try to get them onto CDs for their preservation.

Paleontological Resources Preservation Act (a proposal by federal legislators) - Bob Blodgett, a geologist under contract to the USGS, provided

copies of this proposed act, which was aimed at protecting and preserving the nation's fossil record for the benefit of our citizens, but would in fact prohibit any fossil collecting on federal lands. Bob urged us to read the multi-paged document and to write to our congressman and senators. For additional information, contact Bob at: rblodgett@usgs.gov

Fundraising - Heather asked that the club approve seed money to help get fundraising activities going. It would be used to assemble mineral identification kits for children, which would sell for about \$5 each. No sample kits had been prepared but Heather and her committee gave a verbal description of their ideas. Greg moved and Sue seconded that up to \$500 for materials be allocated from our treasury

and that no single withdrawal was to exceed \$100 without approval. The motion passed. Andres also suggested a bake sale to benefit the club at our table at Fur Rondy.

By-laws - Anita said that a proposed revision to the bylaws would have the 2nd vice-president assume the duties of show chairperson.

Door prizes were given. Due to the lengthy meeting, the scheduled program was postponed to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bea Allen, Recording Secretary

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**Chugach Gem & Mineral Society**  
**March Business Meeting Minutes**

President Anita Williams called the March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005 meeting of the Chugach Gem and Mineral Society to order at 7:30 pm.

Newsletter - Sue said the Pebble Patter would be out in 2 weeks and the deadline for articles would be Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Several guests were present: local residents Marti Engenbretsen and Doreen Stangel; UAA student William Groom; and rockhounds Mike and Fay McMartin. Along with our new guests former member Dick Freisinger was given a big welcome.

Website - Adeline said she was updating the list of fieldtrips for 2005 and would also list future meeting programs.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Fundraising - Heather reported that \$49.51 was raised from the mini-bake sale at our Fur Rendezvous exhibit, and thanked all who contributed goodies.

Recording Secretary - Bea read the minutes of the February meeting, which were accepted as read.

Programs - Greg had prepared a schedule but said that there were some open dates. Also, he had amended the silent auction rules to make exchanges more equitable for those members participating.

Treasurer - Linda reported a balance of \$5,020.40 in our checking account and said accounting records were now on a computer.

Fieldtrips - Bonnie said that the trip signup sheets were on the back table and some changes in the schedule had been necessary. The trip to ARLIS on the UAA campus was still taking place on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Membership - Jean reported 208 members as of this evening.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Northwest Federation Liaison - Tom had nothing to report but said the Northwest Federation newsletter had information on summer activities.

Anita reported that the Alaska Miners Association had asked if we wanted to participate in the rock and mineral show again during their convention in November. All present agreed we should, and also that the publicity needed improvement. Member Toni

Corresponding Secretary - Nancy had turned in all the mail.

Sunshine Committee - Dorothy was absent.

Carlos offered to help publicize the event through the school district, and others had ideas to offer as well.

the club allocate \$2500 for the skull and \$1000 for a scholarship. The motion was seconded by Sue and passed.

Sheila thanked everyone who worked at our exhibits at Fur Rondy and the Iditarod start. Anita in turn thanked Sheila and Andres for all of the work they had done to make it possible.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW BUSINESS

Greg said the GPAA (Gold Prospectors Association of America) had changed their meeting to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Sunrise Restaurant. This would enable members who belong to our club and the GPAA to attend both meetings.

Anita presented 2004 Rockhound of the Year award-recipients Andres and Sheila with a photo plaque.

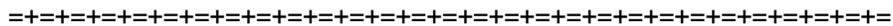
After awarding door prizes to some lucky members, we took a break.

Scholarships - Steve requested that the club decide how it wanted to distribute funds, either as scholarships to earth sciences students at UAA, or donations to the Alaska Museum of Natural History, or to divide funds between the two. In recent years, our allocation had been \$4000 for two scholarships. Greg proposed the club allocate \$2500 for the purchase of a hadrosaur skull for the museum and perhaps 2 scholarships for \$750 each. Bobbie moved that

The evening's program was presented by Anita and featured a slide show on jade mining operations at Kobuk.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bea Allen, Recording Secretary



**Field Trip Report**

Tucson

By Sheila Macias

Wow, after my second year there I am still amazed. I know my way around a little better, of course, and did more dickering with vendors, most of whom don't speak but 4 or 5 words of English. I just can't believe the amount of amazing stuff there is to be seen there. Fossils, rocks, gems, beads, junk; and everyone has something different to offer from all over the world.

- Make your reservations NOW if you want a room to stay in, because they fill up fast and they are expensive.
- Most important, take a drool towel 'cause if you are like me you will drool over the most amazing rock specimens, fossils and some of the most beautiful cathedrals you have seen.
- The best prices are in the largest places like the Electric Park. Huge tents as far as the eye can see. Every one filled to the brim with everything imaginable.

Just a few tips:

- One of the first things you will want to do is find a show guide. They can be found in the lobbies of most of the hotels that are hosting shows.
- If you have a business license be sure and tell the person you are dealing with at the time that you are a wholesale buyer. Some places will have you register so have your paper work ready.
- Bring a pocket full of cash because you won't be able to resist most of the goodies that are in every direction.
- Take a lightweight jacket because it is cool in the morning and warm by afternoon, so leave the big Alaska jacket back in your room.

I missed a turn to go to one of the bead shows, so I cut through the Tucson airport where I saw Bobbie walking down the sidewalk. It's a small world even in a crowded place like Tucson in February. Yes, it was 9 days in temperatures averaging around 65. I enjoyed every minute of it and when it was time to go I had my luggage maxed out with weight: two check-in bags at 50 pounds each and two carry on bags both over 20 pounds. I can't wait until next year; hope to see you there.



**Field Trip Report**

A Visit to ARLIS

By Anita Williams

On Saturday March 12<sup>th</sup>, Greg Durocher led a field trip to ARLIS, the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services, which is now located in the new UAA/APU Consortium Library building. Seven of us met by the Foucault pendulum in the lobby at 10:30 am and were graciously given a tour of the facilities by Cathy Vitale. The ARLIS area of the library is accessible during the UAA library hours, however ARLIS staff are there Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm if access is desired to special collections or other secured areas of the library. If you have visited ARLIS in any of their previous locations you will immediately be impressed with the new location (and hopefully, their final resting spot). It is spacious, light, and pleasant. There are computers available in ARLIS for extensive database searches and the computer database is also accessible through the UAA and municipal library systems. The system is just getting better and better. And of course it is always a pleasure to be surrounded by USGS publications from the 1800's to present--so much information! They also have CIRI's copy of the Anaconda collection. These data were previously archived at the University of Wyoming and could only be accessed for a fairly hefty fee. Now these Alaska data are open to Alaskans in Alaska. There are also records of geologic data on file with private companies and native corporations if a person is doing research in a specific region or on a specific mineral deposit.

Mission Statement: Alaska Resources Library and Information Services provides universal access to natural and cultural resources information. The library staff and ARLIS's federal, state, university, and future

partners recognize that improved understanding of Alaska's resources facilitates wise development, conservation and management. ARLIS serves the diverse information needs of its customers in an unbiased and effective manner.

The natural and cultural resources collection at ARLIS consists of:

- More than 200,000 books
- 700 journals
- Electronic databases
- Legal materials
- Federal and state documents
- Agency documents
- Maps and atlases
- Conference proceedings
- Masters theses and Ph.D. dissertations
- Videos, slides, and photos
- Furs, skulls, and bird mounts
- Environmental education materials

When visiting the library Monday through Thursday during the day be sure to park in the parking garage accessible off UAA Drive and get your ticket validated at the ARLIS desk. Parking in the evenings and Friday through Sunday is free in the regular parking lots. Books can be checked out on a municipal library card, an ARLIS card, or a UAA student card. A card to pay for any printing can be secured at the front desk. This is a wonderful facility and the personnel have done a great job in making it easy to get access to so much data and reference material.

The library is located at:  
 3211 Providence Drive  
 Suite 111 Library Building  
 907-272-7547 for information.  
 The web site for ARLIS is [www.arlis.org](http://www.arlis.org)

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Date	Days	Trip Name	Leader	Comments
April 9	Sat	Alaska Museum of Natural History "Dinosaurs of Darkness" Exhibit	Anita Williams	Starts April 2 for ±6 month run. Free admission for club members.
May 15	Sun	Coyote Lake Cleanup	Anita Williams	
May 22	Sun	Nikiski Beachcombing	Phillip Elrod	
May 24-May 26	Tue-Thu	Fossil Point	Andres Macias / Rick Parkhurst	Good low tide dates Est. cost: \$250; Participation may be limited
May 28-May 30	Sat-Mon	Denali Fault Earthquake Inspection with Taylor Hwy side trip	Greg Durocher	Trip will require moderate hiking to view areas of interest.
June 4	Sat	Wishbone Hill	Steve Jensen	
June 5-June 8	Sun eve-Wed	Boulder Creek	Andres Macias	ATV trip
June 11-June 12	Sat-Sun	AK Geological Society Matanuska Valley Field Trip	Just FYI. This is an AK GS Trip	See the following link for more info. <a href="http://www.alaskageology.org/fieldtrips/">http://www.alaskageology.org/fieldtrips/</a>
June 18-June 19	Sat-Sun	2005 Alaska Gold Show at Crow Creek Mine	Not a trip. Just FYI	Carpool possibilities
June 24-June 26 June 25	Fri-Sun Sat	Yukon Island and Red Mountain Red Mountain ONLY	Gretchen Bersch	Good low tide dates Cost: To be determined later
July 1-July 4	Fri-Mon	Nome	Greg Durocher	Limit: 8 participants Cost: To be determined later
July 9-July 10	Sat Sun	Hope Gold Panning Palmer Creek Hiking	Steve Jensen Bonnie Hepburn	Overnight possibility
July 16-July 18	Sat-Mon	Rainbow Mountain	Anita Williams	
July 31-Aug 3	Sun eve-Wed	Alfred Creek	Andres Macias	ATV trip
Aug 7	Sun	Golden Zone Mine	Dorothy Arnold	\$100 for transportation from MP188 Parks Could camp nearby on Saturday
Aug 13	Sat	Independence Mine Buildings Tour and Willow Creek Gold Panning	Bonnie Hepburn / Steve Jensen	Fee to be determined later Blueberries should be ripe too!!
Aug 20	Sat	Usibelli Coal Mine	Anita Williams	
Aug 27 Aug 28	Sat Sun	Gunsight Mountain Sheep Mountain	Bea Allen Mel Bennett	Overnight possibility
Nov 4-Nov 5	Fri-Sat	Alaska Miners Association Rock and Mineral Show	Anita Williams	

