

**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/>

Published by
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 770-2732

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 7:30 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



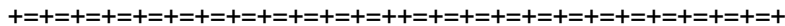
President's Message

Greetings, Rockhounds!

As we hurtle around the sun bound for springtime, the approach of "field season" no longer seems so impossibly distant. Still-wrapped specimens from last season cry out for a glimpse of the increasing daylight, and empty packs beckon to be loaded for the season's first forays. There are some exciting new offerings and reliable standbys. Some trips are limited, so first signed, first served!

It's not too early to start a walking program to get into shape. It is treacherous outside (I wear "gripper slippers"), but mall-walking is a viable option. Incorporate the stairs at the 5th Avenue or Dimond Mall, and you can get a good work-out. Of course, if you have exercise machines serving as closets at home, they might be your first choice... Before anything else, get a check-up if it's been a while! Looking forward to a "great oh eight!"

Greg Durocher



February Business Meeting

President Greg Durocher called the meeting to order February 14th at 7:30 pm.

Recording Secretary Chris Teutsch read January's minutes, which were accepted with two corrections. For future business meetings, 9 to 12 copies of the previous meeting's minutes will be placed on the back table for members to read.

Old business discussed was the black light fixture and display case for the Alaska Museum of Natural History.

New business included a successful motion to donate \$50.00 in memory of Forrest Hayden to the Rotary Club where he was a member.

Greg announced that Forrest Hayden's family agreed to continue renting land to the club for storage of the club's connex.

Members who volunteered to help with planning for the November rock show were Joe Turnbow, Greg Durocher, Andre Macias and Anita Williams.

Following humor from Norval Kane and a break, the program shown was "Caves" from the Planet Earth series.

The program planned for the February potluck was to be a talk on the Colville Dinosaur Dig by Katch Bacheller of the Alaska Museum of Natural History.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Teutsch, Recording Secretary

A Visit to the Oregon City Rock & Mineral Club
By Bea Allen

On a recent trip to Portland, Oregon, I contacted a woman who had visited Alaska last summer, and whom I had met and taken fossil hunting at Wishbone Hill along with her family. She is an Alaska native with family ties in the village of Shaktoolik on Norton Sound, and delightful and knowledgeable company.

Bernice invited me to her club meeting in Oregon City, and she and her son kindly picked me up or I would have been lost somewhere on a freeway. The club met in a church basement and there were about 35 or 40 people in attendance. They were friendly, and I met two who had lived in Fairbanks. They do not have potlucks, but do have a refreshment committee, and members take turns providing the snacks, making coffee and cleaning up.

Instead of a regular program that evening, several club members had brought in their rock cutting and polishing equipment and set them up on tables with samples of what they had processed. There were polished agates, cabochons, and faceted sunstones. There were no demonstrations. Each explained the material and use of his piece of equipment and there were signup sheets for those who wanted to learn how to cut, polish, and use the equipment, and plans to meet at the individuals' homes for lessons.

Everyone was very excited about their upcoming fieldtrip on the weekend to the Oregon coast to look for agates and fossils on a creek near the shore. I got the name and location of the creek and accommodations for optimistic future plans of my own. There were samples of fossil shells and of raw and polished deep blue agates. Beautiful!

+==+

Upcoming Programs

March 13th: Dwight Smith on Kazakhstan

March 27th: Silent Auction

April 10th: Dwight Smith on Utah Field Trip

April 24th: Steve Herschbach on Metal Detectors

+==+

Meet Your Board Members

One or two brief biographies will be in each of the next couple issues of the Pebble Patter. The bios are written by the individuals.

I hope to be a member of the club as long as I live in Alaska, as rocks are my passion.

Sheila Lynn Macias

Second Vice President and member of several committees.

I have been happily married to Andres Macias for 18 years and have spent 17 of those here in Alaska.

I have a degree in accounting and am a Senior Credit Manager for Wells Fargo Financial.

We have two great dogs; Molly the malamute and Merlin the malamutt.

Andre and I have been members of the CGMS for over 5 years and were honored to be named Rockhounds of the Year for 2004.

During the November rock shows I have been a vendor for the last three years where I also took 1st or 2nd place ribbons in the display competitions.



Stuck in a mudhole near the Little Nelchina -- 2003
Photo by Rick Parkhurst

Chris Teutsch

1947 - Born in Munich, Germany. High School in Madison, WI; Attended UW- Platteville, WI; Lassen College, Susanville, CA; UAF, Fairbanks, AK. Degrees in Forest Management and Philosophy. Worked in Northern California's timber industry, as U/G trammer and miner at Yellowknife, NWT and Kellogg, ID, and currently involved with forest research in Interior and SE Alaska. 1979 - Married to Marilyn. 1996 - Transferred from the Institute of Northern Forestry, Fairbanks to the Forestry Sciences Lab in Anchorage. Short-term goals include retirement and more rockhounding. Ongoing long-term goal is to learn a little more about the age of rocks, and a lot more about the Rock of ages.



Crossing the Little Nelchina -- 2006
Photo by Rick Parkhurst

+==+



How they used to go rockhounding on the Little Nelchina – CGMS field trip, 1968
Photo by Oro Stewart

2008 Chugach Gem and Mineral Society Activity List

| Date | Days | Activity Name | Leader(s) | Comments |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--|---------------------------------|---|
| OPEN | OPEN | Club Member Mineral Collection Tour | OPEN | Any member interested in showing off his/her mineral collection, please contact field trip chair. |
| March 29 | Sat | AK Museum of Natural History(KF) [*] Joint trip with Mat-Su Club | Bea Allen | Meet at museum at 11 am. |
| April 9 | Wed eve | ABC's of Rocks and Minerals-APU(KF) [*] | Greg Durocher | Greg's office at 7:00-8:30 pm. Limited to 15. |
| Apr 11-13 | Fri-Sun | ASD Science Fair (KF) ¹ | Andre Macias | K-12 science fair. Club will give awards for best geology exhibits. |
| April ?? | ?? | ARLIS -UAA | Anita Williams | Learn how to use resources at ARLIS (AK Resources Library and Information Services). |
| TBD | Sat-Sun | Fire Island | Greg Durocher | Beachcombing and camping. Cost: \$95/person. Ltd to 9. |
| May 10 | Sat | Spring Cleanup at Hatcher Pass(KF) [*] Joint trip with Mat-Su Club | Greg Durocher Bonnie Hepburn | Meet at the Gold Mint parking lot (by the Mother Lode Lodge) at 11 am. Free day passes to volunteers. |
| June 8 | Sun | Castle Mountain(KF) [*] | Andre and Sheila | Petrified wood. Geo-cache. |
| June 21 | Sat | Wishbone Hill (KF) [*] | Mel Bennett | Vegetative fossils. |
| June 20-22 | Fri-Sun | NW Federation Meeting, Ontario, OR | TBD (club rep) | |
| July 3-7 | Thu pm – Mon am | Eagle / Yukon River Trip | Sue Hilton Andre Macias | July 4 in Eagle, then downriver to Calico Bluff. Cost: ±\$20 for fuel; BYO-PFD. Gold panning, fossils. |
| July 19-21 | Fri-Sun | Little Nelchina | Andre Macias | ATV trip. Fossils, agates, quartz, et al. Geo-cache. |
| Aug 2-3 | Sat-Sun | Rainbow Mountain | Bonnie Hepburn Sue Hilton | Off Richardson Hwy, north of Paxson. Crinoids, horn coral, et al. Meet Sat. 11am MP206. |
| Aug 10 | Sun | Golden Zone Mine(KF) [*] | Dorothy Arnold | \$120 for transportation from MP188 Parks. Payment due to Dorothy July 11. Make check payable to "Denali Sightseeing Safaris". Could camp nearby on Saturday. |
| Aug 30-Sep 1 | Sat-Mon | Fossil Creek | Greg Durocher | ATV trip. Fossils, esp. ammonites. Geo-cache. |
| Sep 1-7 | Mon-Sun | Rockhound Retreat in Oregon | Anita Williams | Full package: \$320/person. Includes rustic room & board, workshop, guided trip to fossil beds. |
| Sep 12 – 14 ?? | Fri-Sun | Colorado Mineral & Fossil Show (Denver) | possibly Sheila | |
| Oct 15 | Wed eve | AK Volcano Observatory-APU(KF-12) [*] | Greg Durocher | 7:00 – 8:30 pm; limited to 15. |
| Nov 7-9?? | Fri-Sun | Alaska Miners Association Rock and Mineral Show (KF) [*] | Anita Williams and committee | Get your displays ready for this year's show! |
| 3 rd week of Jan 2009 | TBD | Quartzite Rock Show and side trips (AZ/CA) | Tom Cooper | Save these dates. |

Club membership is required for all club trips. Trips are subject to change. Please visit our web site for updates: www.chugachgms.org.

^{*}Kid friendly trips/events; KF-12: older kids. Note: Children's supervision is solely the responsibility of their parent(s).

