



MILLENNIUM DIGGERS ASSOCIATION Keizer, Oregon



Secretary/Editor: Penny Esplin

PRESIDENT: Ken Orndorff

VICE PRESIDENT: Terrie Fox

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP: Joe Greene

Claims Officer: Claudia Wise

Meeting Minutes from April 26th 2018

Call to Order: Ken was not present, so VP Terrie presided. We all stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Terrie called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Attendance: After everyone had signed in, we had a total of **17** in attendance, including 3 new members Troy and Joe and his 2 month old daughter, Lilliana.

Secretary's Report: The minutes/newsletter was emailed to all members. Penny brought 2 copies for anyone who wants to read it. A motion was made to accept the minutes as stated, Penny seconded and the motion was approved by all.

Treasurer's Report: Joe reported our savings account looks good. Last month's raffle brought in \$12.00. Claudia made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as stated, Tammy seconded, and the motion was approved by all.

Claims Report: Claudia reported that our Golden Crown claim was denied because of previous Mineral Withdrawal. Claudia stands her ground that *there is no proof that a mineral survey was done deciding what mineral values were present before withdrawing it from mineral entry.*

MMAC: New stuff: Claudia reported that MMAC has been re-organized from LLC to Non-Profit- So they can use 100% of membership dues for trips to D.C.

-Joe Martori is now on the Board of Directors as the Government Affairs Officer (Spokesperson in D.C.)

-Bill Jensen is President of MMAC

-New membership fee: \$50.00 flat fee

JOIN MMAC to Support All Mining Districts and get Pro-mining Bills through the Federal Legislature

www.mineralsandminingadvisorycouncil.org/USDMM-store.html

or

<http://www.mineralsandminingadvisorycouncil.org/membership-one-district.html>

-Millennium Digger Members can support MMAC with a Membership of \$50.00-

UPCOMING EVENTS/OUTINGS:

CHANGE OF PLANS FOR HAMPTON BUTTE:

*****KEN HAS CANCELED HIS PLANS WITH HELPING TO LEAD THE TRIP TO HAMPTON BUTTE DUE TO LOTS OF RAIN AND T-STORMS. He will reschedule another trip if there is interest still.**

DON says he will help with leading a field trip to **HAMPTON BUTTE ON FRIDAY, MAY 25TH**. Members can let him know if they want to go at our next meeting (on May 24th), and he will give directions then. Hampton Butte, 52 miles east of Bend. For anyone who wants to look for petrified wood, common opal, quartz crystals and agate. A good time is guaranteed; you will find that special rock! It's up to you if you want to stay and camp in the area. He will be there until Sunday, then is headed for Glass Buttes.

SUNSTONES: Penny, Walt and Terrie are going to the **Sunstone Desert (Lake Co., by Plush)**. We'll be **leaving Salem early am on Sat. May 26th** (might stay at Sherlock Gulch Res Sat night and Sun). Then we'll be going to the **Sunstone Public Collecting Area (BLM)**. If anyone gets the urge to go, maybe we'll see you out there! (*Penny has map and directions if anyone needs them*)

REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR! The Digger's camp trip to Miner's Meadow **THURSDAY JUNE 7TH THRU MONDAY JUNE 11, 2018** Located in the Santiam Mining District on Quartzville Creek, Linn County. **Note:** *This is a for sure outing; Claudia has reserved this spot for us way ahead of time.*

PRINEVILLE ROCK AND GEM SHOW THURS JUNE 14TH

MADRAS SHOW THURS JUNE 21ST

Break Time and Raffle:

Rocks and Treasures "A and B": Don brought a large **Brazilian Geode** lined with **Amethyst** crystals, a Hampton Butte limb cast of green **Jasperized wood** and **Agatized wood** showing the wood fibers replaced by silica, a gorgeous piece of "Golden Oak" petrified wood from Stinking Water Pass, east of Burns, a "Cobbleton Hollow" limb cast from Post, Oregon, and several specimens of **Barite** (barium sulfide) from **Brenda, Arizona**.

Yvette brought **Beach Agates** and **Alaskan Beach Agates**, along with a piece of washed up coal she found.

Penny brought from her collection: **Adamite**, **Afresite (Black Beryl)**, **Apatite**, **Anglesite**, **Azurite**, **Augite**, a fossilized **Ammonite**, faceted gemstones of **Andalusite**, a specimen of **Andalusite var. "Chiastolite"**,

Apophyllite, **A**ragonite, **A**quamarine (**B**eryl), **B**arite, Emerald (**B**eryl), **B**ornite, and **B**ismuth crystals (man-made).

About the Man-Made Crystals of Bismuth: Bismuth is a very rare and unusual metal that is solid at room temperature. It is more rare than platinum, ranking number 69 out of the 75 listed rare elements found on Earth's crust. Bismuth is very interesting; its liquid form is denser than its solid form. So as bismuth crystallizes, its solid form floats above the liquid. This effect is found in only 3 other cases (water, gallium and germanium).

Bismuth crystals are man-made or "grown". Their growing time is between 5-10 minutes after forming in a super-cooled bismuth melt. In its solid form, bismuth is incredibly fragile. However, the crystals form to show perfect cleavage. The reason the crystal structure is so fragile is because the rapid growth causes hollow forms, called "hopper crystals". The iridescent coloring is due to a thin layer of bismuth oxide that forms on the surface as it cools. *(Info taken from the internet)*



www.bismuthcrystals.com

Interesting Information Regarding Fossilized Trees and Limb Casts in Eastern Oregon: I have read that the volcanos from the ancient Western Cascades (south of Salem, possibly Snow Peak area) supplied the volcanic ash blowing east, smothering the forests of Eastern Oregon in place. *(from memory from Penny)*

Letters for May "C and D"

Our next meeting will be on Thursday May 24th @ 7:00