

# Welcome Friends and Rockhounds

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## The Petrified Digest

August, 2024



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## Meet Your Fellow Club Members

Ken and Liz Hemberry



I thought that some of you might be curious about who it is that writes the newsletter. Therefore, I have decided to make my wife Liz and me the subject of this month's newsletter. Either that or I waited too long to ask someone else. I'll let you wonder what the real reason is.

Liz was born on an Airbase in Texas where her father was stationed. The family moved to Wenatchee when she was five and she lived there and graduated from Wenatchee High School. She spent most of her working career at DSHS in Wenatchee until her retirement in 2007. I should add that she was still pretty young when she retired.

At age 21, she met a young guy from Dryden and surprisingly agreed to go out with him. Her good judgment must have been on vacation because a year later she married that same guy. Of course, that guy was me. I grew up on an orchard that my parents bought when I was a little over a year old. It was within walking distance of both Peshastin Creek and the Wenatchee River where I spent a lot of time fishing. In my teens and early 20s, I spent a lot of time hiking in the Icicle drainage.

I followed in my dad's footsteps and took over the orchard 45 years ago. Shortly after that we bought the place and have been living in the house that I grew up in. We raised our daughter and our two sons there. We expanded and remodeled the place 10 years ago making room to host our growing family which includes a daughter in law, a son in law and three granddaughters.

In 2007, I started working at Peshastin Hi-Up Growers, a fruit coop that packs fresh pears. I retired from there in 2022. In January of 2023, Liz and I joined the Ginkgo Mineral Society. At the time, our rockhounding experience consisted mostly of looking for agates on the Oregon Coast but we had always been interested in looking for more than just beach finds, and my retirement afforded us the time to do so. Over the years, we have bought and sold orchards. A few years ago, we were farming 85 acres. Today, it's down to 20. Unfortunately, most forms of farming have been suffering in recent times as input costs outpace the prices that retailers are willing to pay to growers. As a result, we are seeing the decline of family farms.

We learned about the club by doing a google search. Our first club trip was in the summer of 23 when Jodi Rose led us to White Fir in Washington and then on to Oregon where we visited Hampton Butte, Murray Mountain and Glass Butte. It was a great trip, and we came home with thundereggs, green petrified wood, moss agate and lots of obsidian. While we were thrilled with the rocks and minerals that we found, it's the people that we have met that make the club truly special.

Late last year I took over the duties of publishing our monthly newsletter, the Petrified Digest, filling the large shoes of Dan Hanson who had been doing it for many years. I have enjoyed doing it and thank Dan for the help he gave me to get me started. While I write the newsletter, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge all that Liz does. She purchases all the envelopes, stamps and paper. She does the printing as well as applying address labels and doing all the mailing.

Like most club members, Liz and I love the great outdoors. Whether it's hiking in the woods, walking on the beach or digging in a hole for rocks and minerals, we always enjoy ourselves. Liz is an avid quilter while I like to play piano and guitar. We both love to travel to new places, mostly within the US, and we never get tired of spending time with our kids and grandkids.

Earlier this year we took a 26-day, 6400-mile road trip to see more of our great country, while travelling through 9 states. We plan to bring some of the stuff we found on that trip to one of our meetings.

I always ask people what their favorite rocks and minerals are. A lot of people say, "I love it all." I guess we fall into that same category. More than anything we enjoy getting out, seeing new places, meeting new people and being amazed by the wonderful treasures nature produces. Neither Liz nor I have gotten too far into lapidary, but we plan to.

Thanks for listening to our story. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming meetings and events.

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## From Atop the Rockpile

During the last meeting, I had stepped down from being president. While I enjoy the club and company, I have way too much going on in life right now to be in a leadership position. Right now, I am not the president that this club needs. I am an educator, an employee and a business woman. However, I am definitely not an organizer or leader. I do plan on still doing educational presentations ever now and again. As Vice President, Derek Corder will lead the meetings until a new President is elected in November.

I am still going to be at Twin Beach August 24th-25th. If you'd like to meet us there for fossil hunting at the beach, feel free! The campsites are getting reserved fast and there were only 5 in the whole site. There are hotels in Port Angeles. We will be at the beach if anyone would like to meet out there.

Rock On!  
Thea Stender

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## From the Scribe

Ginkgo meeting July 19th called to order at 7:03 by Thea Stender

Chuck Watkins is leading a field trip to a new location on Red Top Saturday, 8/3. Meet up will be at NW corner of the Gateway Cinema parking lot closest to Subway & the gas station ramp, the club will depart at 9am. Bring hard rock tools such as hammer, sledge, & chisels.

Thea Stender will lead a field trip to Twin Beach near Port Angeles on 8/24 to look for marine fossils. Twin Beach Campground is suggested lodging across the street from the beach.

Our picnic/auction is tentatively scheduled for noon on Saturday, 8/17 at Dan & Dena Hanson's home. The club will supply chicken & water. Please bring a dish for this potluck style picnic, plenty of money for the silent & live auctions, as well as a lawn chair. Melisha Maxey has volunteered to take over the club auction coordinator position.

R John Montgomery has volunteered for the Chelan County Fair Superintendent position. The theme this year is "Back to Our Roots in Cowboy Boots". Chuck Watkins, Carl Pederson, Brenda Jackson, Susan Oglebay, David Earhart, Derek Corder, & Pam Lander/Jodi Rose will be filling a display case. Jodi, Susan, R John, Thea, & Richard Prevett via Carol Smith have donations for the kid's giveaway. Carol Smith will be decorating our table. We are still in need of volunteers to man the booth Thursday to Sunday.

A trim saw & genie have been moved from Dave Stender's home to R Johns home in Ephrata to serve members in our outlying area.

Show & tell – Beth Shaw brought an unnamed large specimen, perhaps silica on rhyolite. Nathan Clark brought a petrified wood log weighing about 50lbs, that I believe was found in a wall during a demo of an in-law's property. Liz Hemberry presented a beautiful quilt she made with stones attached to it depicting the wall at Fir Road.

Door prize was won by Kyle Lesmeister. The raffle was won by Liz Hemberry. A slab cut by Carl Pederson, donated by the Hanson's, was won by Brenda Jackson. Slabs & thunder eggs donated by Susan Ogleby were won by Chris Claussen, R John Montgomery, Leah Glenn, Jodi Rose, Carl Pederson, & Brenda Jackson.

The treasurer report was approved. The June meeting notes were approved with a correction – Chuck Moser, rather than Chuck Watkins, was noted as potentially leading a field trip to Red Top in error.

Thea Stender will be stepping down as president as of August 1st & Derek Corder will lead our group as Vice President until the end of the year. We will be looking for nominees for club officers in November, please consider

volunteering for a 2025 board position.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:33pm

Melisha Maxey  
Fixed Ops Assistant/BDC Supervisor  
Town Toyota  
500 3rd ST SE  
East Wenatchee, WA 98802  
509-888-5000 Ext 272

### Upcoming Events

**The Annual Potluck/Auction has changed a bit. We'll be meeting at Walla Walla Point Park shelter #2 from 11 am to 2 pm. Please bring a side dish, a drink of choice (non alcoholic), a lawn chair and wallet as there will be silent auction small boxes of rocks to bid on and a live auction of specimens! See you soon!**

**The Field Trip to Twin Beach** will be on the 24th and 25th of August. Thea will be leading the trip. See the President's message above for more details.

### Trip Report: Red Top, Agate Nodules, August 3, 2024

On August 3rd, 10 club members, led by Chuck Watkins, travelled to Red Top to look for agate nodules. It took longer than anticipated to get there because a semi had run off of Highway 97 which caused a large traffic jam. Fortunately, there were no injuries. Once past the wreck, we continued to the turn off. Driving up the dusty road, we came to a Y where we turned right onto the North Fork Teanaway. We parked a little further on. Some of us scrambled up to an upper wall.

There was a second site a little further down the slope. There was also a nearby road cut where some of our party found agate nodules. While most of the specimens were small there were some nice sized ones as well, although those are harder to find. You can see a larger one in Jodi's finds. If you go to the Ginkgo Facebook page you can watch a video of Donna and Bill Barrett extracting a really large one out of the upper wall. I only found the small ones but I intend to go back soon in search of bigger stuff!



Jodi Rose at the road cut



Jodi's finds. Large nodule at top of pic



A big thank you to Chuck for leading the trip!



Donna Barrett at the Upper Wall



Hole in the Wall



Bill Barrett at the Upper Wall

### Where's the Equipment

Several of our members have graciously provided homes for our shop equipment. They will make the equipment available to Club members by appointment so we can still cut and polish the stones we collect. Below is a list of equipment with phone numbers to call to arrange an agreeable time:

R John Montgomery: A Genie and trim saw 509-860-2762

Jodi Rose: A Genie and trim saw 509-763-9402

Carl Pederson: A Genie, an 18-inch slab saw (\$2.00 per cut), 10 inch slab saw, faceting machine 509-630-8239. If you need slabs cut contact Carl, he may be able to cut them for you.

### From the Vault

As of July 1, 2024	
2 CDs	\$11,851.05
Savings Account	\$2,086.44
Checking Account as of 6-30-2024	\$5,221.62
2 Deposits	\$224.00
2 Checks Written	-120.17
Ending Balance as of 6-30-2024	\$5,325.45

David's Notes

85 families have paid memberships at this time.

Individual: \$20.00

Family: \$40.00

Senior (one): \$15.00

## Marketplace



The Ginkgo Mineral Society was formed to promote the education of mineralogy and geology; to encourage the collecting of rocks and minerals; to provide field excursions to mineral collecting areas; and to promote interest in lapidary work.

We are a 501c7 organization and are not "charitable" in nature but are a membership organization formed to serve its own members. 501c7 organizations do not solicit charitable donations. As long as a social club is "organized for pleasure, recreation or other non-profit purposes" it can qualify as exempt from federal income tax.

Annual Dues: Individual-\$20.00, Senior-\$15.00, Family-\$40.00, Lifetime (20 plus years)-Free. Please mail your dues to Ginkgo P.O. Box 303, Wenatchee, WA 98807.

**Club information cards are available to handout to folks who show interest in our hobby. See David Earhart for cards to carry with you.**

Learn more

**Next Meeting: Auction/Potluck**

August 17 th from 11 am to 2 pm  
 Walla Walla Point Part Shelter #2  
 Bring a lawn chair, side dish and money for the auction

Email ideas, trip notes or photos to: Lizabethberry@hotmail.com Website: [www.wenatcheerockclub.org](http://www.wenatcheerockclub.org) Facebook page: Ginkgo Mineral Society

**Club Officers**

- President..... Thea Stender..... 509-630-1391
- Vice President..... Derek Corder..... 425-270-0221
- Secretary..... Melisha Maxey..... 509-885-2996
- Treasurer..... David Earhart..... 509-860-0988

**Coordinators**

- Marcia Summers..... Membership..... 509-860-7556
- David Earhart..... Nason Creek..... 509-860-0988
- Pam Lander..... Christmas Wrap, Grit..... 509-884-5135
- Carl Pederson..... Shop and Equipment..... 509-630-8239
- Derek Corder..... Rock Auction.....425-270-0221
- Brenda Jackson..... Social Chairperson..... 509-884-5320
- Susan Oglebay..... Club Website..... 509-754-2665
- Thea Stender.....Museum..... 509-630-1391
- R John Montgomery.....Chelan County Fair.....509-860-2762
- Ken Hemberry..... Newsletter..... 509-699-9450
- Cheri McMillan.....Facebook Page Admin.....509-860-0009
- Sarah Collamore.....Facebook Page Admin.....808-365-3555



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