

OREGON COUNCIL OF ROCK & MINERAL CLUBS
PRESIDENT'S UPDATE
JULY – SEPTEMBER 2018

Summer is here and with the change in seasons we will experience some high temperatures and very dry conditions. It is also prime rock hunting time, so please exercise caution when you are out in the backcountry where wildfires are a constant danger. Since my last update, I have been able to attend the Roseburg, Prineville and Madras shows. All offered an exceptional array of quality lapidary material from a wide range of great dealers. I picked up some really nice Willow Creek jasper from Larry Ridley as well as a couple of Condors, Brazilians and of course more rough. We visited Richardson's and enjoyed a tour through their rock yard which was well stocked with material from all over the world. Next on my schedule is the Far West Show in North Bend on August 3, 4 & 5. It's always a good idea to go to the coast in August and get out of the valley heat.

We had a great annual meeting in Madras, so thanks to all who made the time to attend and provide their ideas. There were several housekeeping matters to address including electing Maureen Williams as our treasurer for a new two year term. Unfortunately, Don Innes has advised he must retire as our newsletter editor due to some health concerns. We want to acknowledge and thank Don for his years of tireless work on behalf of the Council and the many organizations (Far West Club, NWFMS, Ye Old Timers) he has served. We certainly wish Don well and hope to see him at our upcoming meetings and shows. If you, or someone you know, is interested in being our newsletter editor, please contact any of our officers. If we are not successful in finding a replacement, we may have to look at staying in contact using emails and our website. We also discussed contacting non-member clubs and how we could encourage them to support the Council. It was suggested we prepare an informational sheet to provide organizations with an overview of our mission and how we are promoting the interests of recreational rockhounds.

Lenora Smith and Susie Koppert updated us on their activities with various federal agencies. Lenora will be contacting the Salem BLM office to see when we can attend a Northwest Oregon RAC meeting. We would eventually like to have a Council representative selected to serve on this committee. Susie continues to attend BLM RAC meetings in eastern Oregon and is hopeful she will soon be a member of the John Day – Snake River RAC. Our participation on these panels is the best way to ensure that our interests are being considered in federal land management decisions. Thank you Lenora and Susie for keeping us engaged and relevant.

Vicki Johnson, our Capitol Case Agent, advised that the Columbia Gorge Club is currently exhibiting in Salem. Next up in November will be the Lower Umpqua Club from Reedsport. Please call Vicki if you have any questions about the Capitol Case.

In closing, I would urge you to write your elected representatives in support of our shared concerns. You might also want to check out the ALAA website for current updates on federal actions. Remember, if we don't speak up, our message will certainly not be heard!

I hope you can attend our next OCRMC meeting at the Portland Regional Show. Please note the change in venue for this show. It will be held at the Clackamas County Fairgrounds in Canby (not at the Washington County Fairgrounds). Give me a call at 541-677-9341 or email CougDog6@q.com with any items you would like to have included on the agenda. Until next time, may your every endeavor meet with success. Dave Williams, OCRMC President.

**NEXT OCRMC MEETING
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2018 @ 1:00 PM
PORTLAND REGIONAL GEM & MINERAL SHOW
CLACKAMAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
694 NE 4TH AVENUE
CANBY, OR**