



# SKAGIT GEMS

Official Publication of the Skagit Rock and Gem Club  
Serving Skagit County WA Since 1961

December 2017  
Volume 57, Issue 10

Our December Meeting is a Potluck and Election of Officers. We would love to have all members there to help celebrate the past year and to vote for our 2018 officers.

Bring a dish to share and a wrapped gift (under \$10) if you would like to join the fun for the Yankee Swap gift exchange. The gift doesn't have to be rock-related just something you would enjoy getting

When: Saturday, Dec. 2nd @ Noon

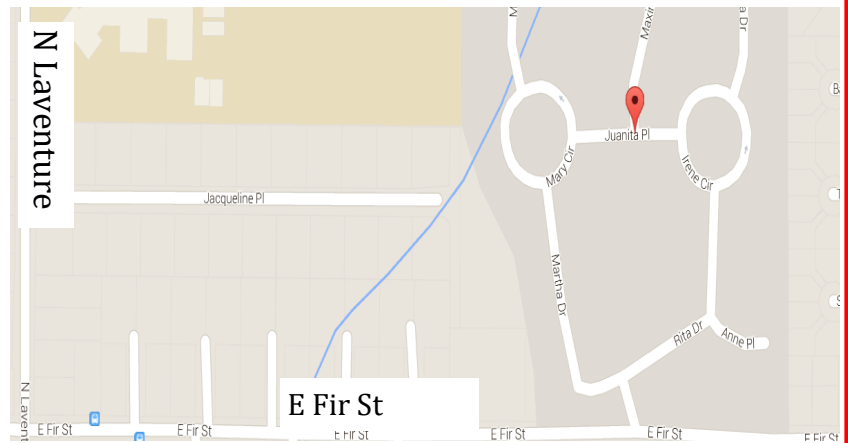
NO Regular Meeting

Where: 2725 E. Fir St. Mount Vernon.

From E. Fir St. turn into  
PARK VILLAGE

Take the 1st left and follow the signs  
around to the clubhouse

Call Linda Keltz for more info 424-  
6525



**NO Regular Meeting in January. Next meeting February 3rd 10am.**

**BURLINGTON**



January we will have a no-host Brunch and Installation  
of Officers on: **SUNDAY JANUARY 7TH @ NOON**

Bobs Burgers in Burlington at the Cook Rd Exit

Even if we don't have any new officers lets get together  
and catch up after the holidays!

Thank you to all of our club members for another great show this year. We appreciate all your hard work and dedication to this club!



Congratulations to Peggy for winning the People's Choice Award for BEST DISPLAY CASE this year. It was her first year displaying with our club. Thank you for sharing your collection! It was a big hit!!!!

### Officer Opening for 2018

Would you like to serve as a club officer for 2018? The club is still in need of a Secretary. This is an easy way to help support the club. The main duties are taking minutes at the meetings and getting them to the newsletter editor, checking the mail from the PO BOX and attending the Board meetings. You can sign-up even if you think you might miss a meeting or two- we can cover you!



### For Sale:

LS-14 Lortone Lapidary Saw \$200.00

For more info: Eric Thompson

360-391-3135

## TWINNED MINERALS

Twinned minerals can add a fascinating side to ordinary minerals or can add another dimension to already complex minerals. There are several minerals that form classic twins, such as chalcocite, fluorite, sanidine, microcline, staurolite, gypsum, cinnabar, spinel and rutile to name a few. Some twins have colloquial names, such as 'fairy cross', 'iron cross' and 'cogwheel' twins. Twins form as a result of an error during crystallization. Instead of a normal single crystal, twins grow out of or into each other. Accidental relationships are not considered twins, that is, where two distinct crystals grow more or less randomly side by-side or toward each other. Twin formation is never random and follows certain defined rules called twin laws, usually named for well known twins, Spinel law, Albite law, etc.

The twin laws are crystallographic in nature and are caused by flaws in the crystal structure occurring during growth or change in phase. Many minerals form with a stacking sequence. If an error occurs during growth the twin forms as a mis-positioned sequence, which is repeated as if nothing happened. The crystal (s) grow outward in both directions. Twinning has a dramatic effect on the outward symmetry of the mineral.

There are two general types of twin styles: contact and penetration. Contact twins have a composition plane that forms the boundary between them, a mirror plane where the twins look like reflected images or an angled plane resulting in a 'bend' to the twin forming dove-tails, fishtails and chevrons. Penetration twins look like whoever made the crystal didn't know how it was supposed to fit and ended up twin crosses, 3-D stars and complex structures. Twinning is actually rather common in the mineral kingdom, but perfectly formed twins are not.

Ref: excerpt <http://galleries.com> and printed in the Oct 2017 'The Council Reporter'







## SKAGIT ROCK & GEM CLUB

**November 4, 2017**

### **Regular Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 am by President Wes Frank.

Minutes: It was M/S/P to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2017 meeting as printed in the Skagit Gems.

Treasurer's Report: David Britten reviewed the financial reports and it was M/S/P to accept the report as given.

Program: A short video on the Lost Crystal Caves was shown. The caves are located in Naica, Chihuahua, Mexico and were discovered in 2000, 1,000 feet below the surface. Scientists entered the caves again in 2010 were allowed to be in the caves for a maximum of 5 minutes due to the 100+ temperature and 90% humidity. It was a very interesting and informative video with comments by member Joe Kantor, Geologist.

Display Table: There were 7 displayers with several pieces of Ethiopian Opal. Other items were Travertine, Malachite, Amethyst, Kona Dolomite, calcite and Smoky Quartz. Jim Anderson won the displayer prize.

Show: Set-up for the show is Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. Everyone was asked to sign-up to work at one or several of the areas including Displays, Greeters, Spinning Wheel, Critter Table, Silent Auction, Raffle Ticket Sales and Demonstrators. Any and all help will be greatly appreciated.

Field Trip: The last Mineral Council field trip for 2017 will be held on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Contact Ed Lehman, (425)334-6282 for details.

Sunshine: Greg Hochmuht had a pacemaker implant last week.

Birthdays for November/December were Gena Anderson, Violet Self-Munion, Janet Garner and Susan May.

Next Meeting is December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12 noon and the Park Village Clubhouse. This is the annual Christmas potluck and gift exchange and election of the 2018 officers. Bring a dish to share and if you would like to participate in the gift exchange bring something (\$10.00/or under) that you would be happy to receive. The food is always delicious and it's a good time to visit and enjoy the gift exchange.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

Respectfully submitted, Acting Secretary Linda Keltz

## VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Meetings are on the FIRST Saturday of the month (except for Jan, July and Dec) at 10:00 am at the  
Mount Vernon Community (Senior) Center  
1401 Cleveland St. Mount Vernon WA 98273



- The purpose of this non-profit earth society shall be to stimulate interest in the study of geology, lapidary, and the collection of geological specimens
- We are a member of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Washington State Mineral Council. We are affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.
- Dues are \$15.00 per year for adults and \$7.50 for those under age 16
- Visit our website: [skagitrockandgem.com](http://skagitrockandgem.com)
- Email: [skagitrockandgem@gmail.com](mailto:skagitrockandgem@gmail.com)
- Mailing address: PO BOX 244 Mt. Vernon 98273

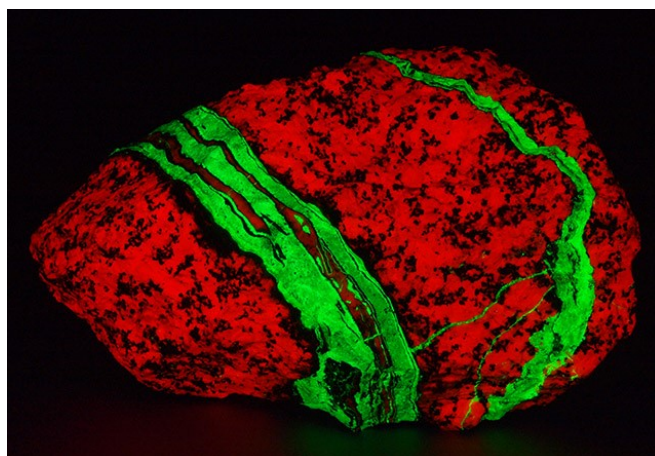
### 2017 Officers

President	Wes Frank
Vice President	Greg Hochmuht
Treasurer	David Britten
Secretary	Open
Federation Director	Virgil Keltz
Bulletin Editor	Debbie Frank
Past President	Eric Self

NFMS Competition-Open  
Nominating Committee-Executive Board  
Program-Open  
Publicity-Frank Isca  
Stamps-Virgil Keltz  
Sunshine- Noni Avery  
Swap-Vandenburs  
Ways & Means-Executive Board

### Committees

Annual Show Chair-Eric Self  
Banquet- The Men  
Display Table-Open  
Education Coordinator-Open  
Facilities/Field Trips- Dave Britten  
Greeter-Linda Keltz  
Library-David Britten  
Scholarship-Noni Avery, Joe Kantor  
Mineral Council & PLAC-Open



Fluorescent Willemite



Skagit Rock and Gem Club  
Debbie Frank, Editor  
20379 Aliston Ln.  
Burlington WA 98233

## Upcoming Gem Shows

**December** 9th 9am - 5pm, 10th 10am - 5pm  
Maplewood Rock and Gem Club 6th Annual Winter Bazaar  
Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse  
8802 196th ST SW Edmonds WA

**February** 10th 9am—5pm, 11th 9am—4pm  
Whidbey Island Gem Club  
53rd Annual Sweetheart of Gems Show  
Oak Harbor Senior Center  
51 SE. Jerome Street Oak Harbor, WA

**Feb.** 23rd 9:30– 5:30, 24th 9:30– 5:30, 25th 9:30 – 5:30  
Oregon Agate and Mineral Society  
OAMS Gem and Mineral Show  
OMSI 1945 SE Water Avenue  
Portland OR 97214

