



SKAGIT GEMS

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

June/July 2018
Volume 58, Issue 5

Next Meeting: June 2nd, 10am--No Regular July Meeting--See below
Gem of the Month: Thunder Eggs
Refreshments: David Britten, Frank Isca

Annual BBQ and Swap Meet

WHEN: July 14th -The swap starts at 10am or
come at Noon for the BBQ. Bring a dish to share.

Directions: 6414 Fruitdale Rd. Fruitdale Rd. does not
go thru from Hwy 20. Head up Hwy 9 from Sedro to
Mosier Rd (a little over 2 miles up). Take a Right on
Mosier and a Left on Fruitdale. When you pull in the
driveway head straight up the hill to find the parking
area.



SRGC CABOCHON SETTING CLASS JULY 2018

For SRGC members only, 18 years and older. Open to 3 to 8 participants.

Create a new piece of jewelry from your favorite cabochon. The class is for beginners to advance students who wish to set their own stones, in sterling silver or fine silver.

A 2-day weekend class with an optional free design consultation/discussion, Friday Evening during set up time.

This is an open project class to help you with your own design. Pendant? Ring? It's up to you!

Material available for purchase from instructor during the class.

If you have hand tools, please bring them to class, along with your own stone and ideas.

Class Instructor: Marie-Claire Dole

Where: SRGC Shed on the Fairgrounds.

When: Saturday and Sunday July 28th and 29th, 2018.

Time: 10am to 4pm

Cost: 130.- Due First Day of Class / Sign-up sheet at Club Meeting or contact Instructor to save your space.

Material: 20.- and up, depending on your design and what you need.

FREE DESIGN CONSULTATION/DISCUSSION

Class Instructor : Marie-Claire Dole

Where: SRGC Shed on the Fairgrounds.

When: Friday July 27th

Time: 4pm to 6pm

No Cost.

Questions: 360-336-3776 - (Land Line – no texting)

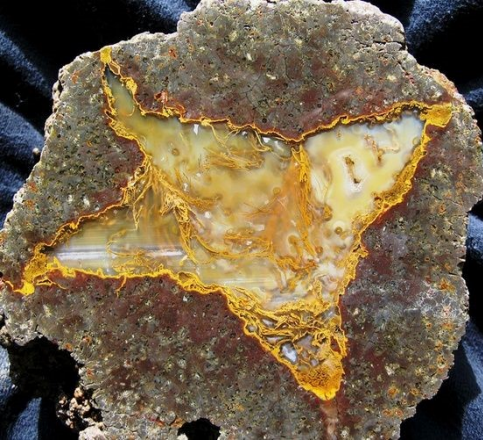
Email : marieclairedole@frontier.com

Web: www.marie-clairejeweler.com



Gem of the Month: ThunderEggs

Thundereggs are agate-filled nodules found in various parts of the Western United States. They range in size from 1/4 inch to as large as 5 feet in diameter. Generally, they are about the size of oranges. All are similar on the exterior, but no two are alike in pattern, design or color on the inside. Cut and polished Thundereggs are beautiful to behold. They are one of the marvels of nature and are sought after and highly prized the world over.



According to legend, Thundereggs were so named by Native Americans of Central Oregon. The natives of this region are said to have believed these strange, agate-filled stones were missiles thrown by angry, fighting "Thunder Spirits" or "Gods" who dwelt on Mount Jefferson and nearby Mount Hood, two of the several snow-capped peaks high in the Cascade Range. The Native Americans thought when thunderstorms occurred these rival, jealous gods hurled large numbers of the round-shaped rocks at each other in furious anger. Thus, according to Native American legend, Thundereggs were scattered over the high plateaus of Central Oregon.

The unique agate-filled mud balls are found in layers of rhyolite lava flows, which spread over the land an estimated 60 million years ago. This was long before man appeared on the earth and thousands of centuries before the Cascade Mountain range was formed and pushed upward, due to tremendous stress beneath the surface of the planet. Geologists reason that the round-shaped Thundereggs were formed in gas pockets, serving as molds, that were left in the lava flows of the Eocene Geological Age. Over long periods of time, the gas cavities or cooled bubbles were gradually filled by water percolating through the porous rock formations. Water (hot or cold) oozing into the cavities carried rich quantities of silica (quartz). The solution lined and in many cases filled the cavity molds, first with the darker matrix material, then the inner core of agate or chalcedony. The beautiful and varying colors were derived from nearby minerals present in the soil. These processes are still going on, but at a much slower rate than during the times of volcanic action, with huge clouds and deposits of volcanic ash rich in silica (quartz).



Many geologists agree that the materials used by nature in forming these exquisite agate-filled Thundereggs came from the surrounding rhyolite lava rock in which they were formed. The matrix and the agate centers were made and composed by water carrying silica and minerals in solution. The water by continuous action robbed the rhyolite flows of its rich silica composition, causing it to eventually decompose. The harder more durable agate materials stayed in place.

Info taken from <http://richardsonrockranch.com/story.html>

Skagit Rock & Gem Club
Board Meeting
May 5, 2018

The Board meeting was called to order by President Wes Frank at 9:30 am. Board members present were: Debbie Frank, Greg Hochmuht, Dave Britten, and Virgil Keltz. Members present were: Frank Isca and Linda Keltz.

Applications for New Members Donna Neff, David Miller and Jason Miller were approved.

Gem of the Month for June: Thunder Eggs

Programs: Greg will check the NFMS library for next month's program. A possible program on fossils will be pursued.

Shop Repairs: Dave Britten has repaired the floor by the saws.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am

Linda Keltz, Acting Secretary



Skagit Rock & Gem Club
Regular Meeting
May 5, 2018



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

Introduction of Guests: Doreen Spencer

Minutes of the April 7th meeting were corrected regarding the shop floor. A motion was M/S/P to approve the minutes as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Britten reviewed the financial statement and a motion was M/S/P to approve the report.

Program: The conclusion of the video regarding the Pebble mining plans and the continued controversy with the ecology was presented. The area being discussed is the last pure eco-system.

Display Table: Displays were of many varieties of ore minerals. There were 6 displayers. Jim & Gina won the prize a piece of Tiger Iron.

Refreshments were provided by Greg and Gina.

Birthdays for May: Greg Hochmuht

Field Trips: Wes reviewed the upcoming field trips and reminded everyone to check with the trip leader. Dave will be scheduling some field trips in the summer.

Announcements: The Everett show is this weekend. Mount Baker club will be having a swap on June 16th at Bloedel Donovan Park. The annual BBQ will be held on July 14th at Danny Vandenburg's park. Swap at 10 am with potluck at noon.

Silver Class: Marie-Claire will be teaching a silver class on July 28th & 29th from 10 am to 5 pm each day. More details to follow.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am

Linda Keltz, Acting Secretary

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



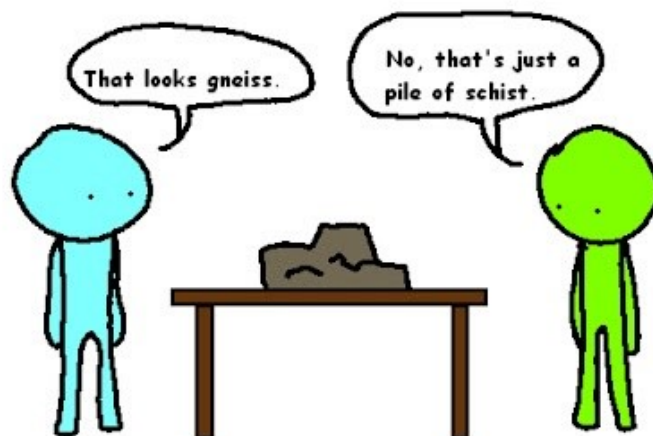
- The purpose of this non-profit earth society shall be to stimulate interest in the study of geology, lapidary, and the collection of geological specimens
- We are a member of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Washington State Mineral Council. We are affiliated with the American 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
- Email: skagitrockandgem@gmail.com
- Mailing address: PO BOX 244 Mt. Vernon 98273

2018 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

Committees

Annual Show Chair-Eric Self
Facilities/Field Trips- Dave Britten
Greeter-Linda Keltz
Library-David Britten
Scholarship-Noni Avery, Joe Kantor
Publicity-Frank Isca
Stamps-Virgil Keltz
Sunshine- Noni Avery
Swap-Vandenburs





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

Field Trips

6/9/2018	MSVL	Wynoochee River	Montesano 1st Gas & Motel 9:00	Orbicular Jasper	Rock Hammer, waders
6/17/2018	MSVL	Saddle Mt Mattawa	W Mattawa Lepricon Market 9:00am	Petrified Wood maybe Opal	Dig & Hard Rock
6/21/2024	POW	Madras Ore	Jefferson Co. Fair Ground Trips @ 8:00	Agate, Jasper, T-Eggs, Wood	Dig & Hard Rock
7/14/2018	DARR	Taylor River	Kens Truck Stop I-90 9:00	Quartz crystals, Concretions	Rock Hammer, waders
7/22/2023	SPOK	Crystal Park Montana	Call Mike Shaw for info	Quartz Crystals	Dig & Lite Rock
8/4/2018	DARR	Sweetwater	Darrington Rock Show 11:00	Travertine, Sauk R Bars	Dig & Hard Rock

MSLV and DARR= Ed Lehman wsmced@hotmail.com h# (425) 334-6282 c# (425) 760-2786

POW = All Rockhounds Pow Wow Larry Vess vessel3755@gmail.com or (253)473-3908

SPOK = Spokane Rock Rollers Mike Shaw mikeshawmoose@yahoo.com (509) 251-1574 or (509) 244-8542

ALWAYS contact host for updated info a week before trip !!!

Local Gem Shows

June 2018 1st 10pm—5pm 2nd 10am—5pm 3rd 10am—5pm	Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club	Annual show “Got Rocks Again”	Swiss Park 9205 198th Ave. E. Puyallup, WA
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