



SKAGIT GEMS

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

November 2017
Volume 57, Issue 9

Next meeting November 4th 10am

Gem of the month: Water created minerals- opals, quartz, etc. See Dave's article on pg. 3

Program: Maybe a video, maybe not

Snacks: No one signed up so feel free to bring something



Mineral Council Field Trips: Last one for 2017!

[ALWAYS contact host for updated info a week before trip !!!](#)

November 18th Dalmatian stone & Chert @ Blanchard Hill. Meet @ I-5 Exit 240 Gas Mart 9:00am. Bring hard rock tools. Contact: Marysville Rock Club-- Ed Lehman
wsnced@hotmail.com h# (425) 334-6282 c# (425) 760-2786

Local Gem Shows:

November 11th 9am - 5pm 12th 10am - 5pm
Maplewood Rock and Gem Club Annual Fall Show
Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse
8802 196th ST SW Edmonds WA

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



CURRENT

happenings

The Club needs YOU!

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!

Lapidary Equipment Available:

Tumblers:

- one - small barrels 3lb & 6 lb
- one - single 12 lb barrel (or two 6 lb barrels)
- one - 12 lb & 6 lb or three 6 lb barrels
- one vibrating tumbler with tear drop drums

Cutting Saw:

- 8 " blade oil saw in cabinet (approx 2'x2'x2')
- dop wax iron
- various size barrels for tumbling

Contact: Linda Keltz [360-424-6525](tel:360-424-6525) or David Britten [360-755-0741](tel:360-755-0741) if you are interested in these items.



Getting ready for the gem show...

We have time slots open for working the show. The biggest need is selling raffle tickets so please sign up for a shift if you are able.

Marie-Claire is running the raffle again this year so please contact her if you have prizes to donate, 360-336-3776 or marieclairedole@frontier.com These can be items from your rock collection, jewelry you've made, or other rock-related items. They should be nice items that people will want to buy raffle tickets for.



Minerals on Planet Earth - Mineral Waters

(Article Seven of Series) by David Britten

As the hot magmas rise from deep in the earth, gases are released. Extreme pressures at depth kept minerals in their liquid form, or locked them up in combination with other minerals. As the magmas rise, pressure is diminished and gasses like carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides, hydrogen sulfide and sulfur dioxide are released. If the magma is thick and gooey or it cools and solidifies quickly, gasses can be trapped in the rock. These trapped bubbles form spherical pockets in the rock called vugs. Volcanic mechanisms continue under and around the solidified magmas. The solid rock shifts, cracks, and fissures form breaking up the solid masses.

Water that has accumulated on the hard surface rocks begins to seep down into the fractured rock. The water is heated as it flows deeper into the hot volcanic interiors. Much of the water is turned to steam which expands and forces further cracking and breaking up of the solidified magmas.

On ancient earth with its acid rains, the water dissolved the solid rock, releasing its minerals. As earth aged and the atmosphere held more oxygen than carbon dioxide, the speed of rock dissolution slowed. But even water of neutral acidity, when heated to high temperature under pressure, can slowly dissolve solid basalts and granites. Minerals such as iron pyrite (fool's gold) break down releasing sulfur which then forms an acid solution in water. These acids dissolve rock very quickly. Mineral rich solutions of hot water course through the rock filling the hollow vugs. As the water rises to the surface, the pressure and temperature falls. New minerals form crystalline deposits on the walls of cracks and the lining of vugs. Water continues coursing through growing layer upon layer of new crystal. Many crystals are formed from this hydrothermal process. High silica content of most magmas produces quartz crystal, the most common mineral formed. The type of crystal formed depends on the mineral content of the host basalt or granite and the temperature or acidity of the dissolving water.

Water also acts on rock formed by living organisms. The calcium carbonate of ancient coral reefs can be changed into the many forms of calcite and aragonite. Calcite on many of our quartz crystal specimens is formed as the hot water which formed the quartz cools to make an environment favorable to the cooler water calcite crystals.

Even crystals which originally formed in cooling magma can grow new mass from hydro-thermal processes.



Rhodochrosite with Hubnerite and Quartz

Common Hydro-Thermal Minerals:

High Temp

Quartz
Epidote
Mica
Garnet
Topaz
Tourmaline

Medium Temp

Quartz
Calcite
Dolomite
Siderite
Barite
Rhodochrosite

Low Temp

Quartz (Chalcedony)
Dolomite
Aragonite
Opal
Fluorite
Zeolites

Much help from Prospecting for Gemstones and Minerals by John Sinkankis

SKAGIT ROCK & GEM CLUB BOARD MEETING October 7, 2017

- The Board meeting was called to order at 9:07 am by President Wes Frank. Board members present: Wes Frank, Greg Hochmuht, Dave Britten, Eric Self, Virgil Keltz, Debbie Frank, Linda Keltz.
- Our upcoming show was the topic of discussion. There will be no concessions this year unless someone at the regular meeting is interested in heading up this area.
- Eric will transport the trailer on Friday, November 10th. Set up will begin at 10:00 am. Frank Isca will get the key to the building on Thursday.
- Raffle prizes are needed and may be brought to the next meeting or given to Marie-Claire at setup.
- Frank is handling the publicity. If anyone is interested in putting up flyers at local businesses; the flyers are available.
- The meeting was adjourned at 9: 20 am.

Submitted by Linda Keltz, Acting Secretary.

SKAGIT ROCK & GEM CLUB REGULAR MEETING October 7, 2017

- The Regular meeting was called to order at 10:07 am by President, Wes Frank.
- Introduction of Guests: Jamie McGougan, Dan Vandenberg's granddaughter visiting from Powell River, BC. Welcome Jamie.
- Minutes: The minutes of the September 2nd were approved as printed.
- Treasurer's Report: Dave Britten reviewed the accounts and it was accepted as presented.
- Program: Dave presented a video on the forming of gem stones such as sapphires and rubies plus other gems including Jade. It was a very interesting and informative video.
- Display Table: There were four displayers with a variety of material. Rick won the ugly rock prize.
- Announcements: Dave mentioned a past member has some equipment for sale if anyone is interested in an 8" oil saw, barrel tumblers or vibrating tumbler contact Dave or Linda Keltz.
- The Marysville Gem show is this weekend.
- November Show: Wes reviewed the need for displays, raffle prizes and people to sign up to help with the sale of raffle tickets, man the spinning wheel, critter table and greeters table. Any and all help is greatly appreciated and needed.
- There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.
- Next Meeting: November 4th at 10:00 am

Submitted by 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



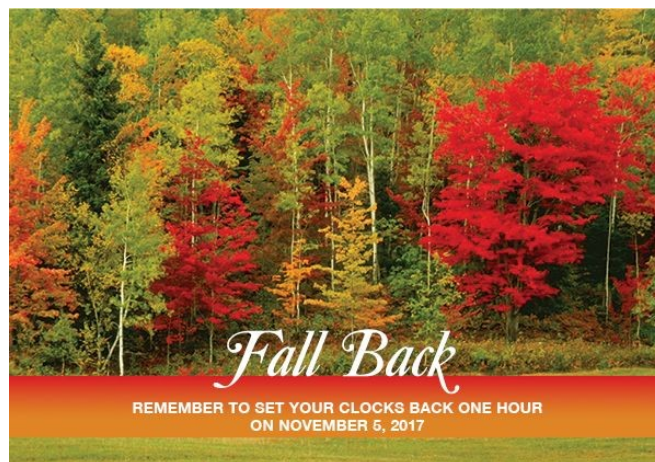
- The purpose of this non-profit earth society shall be to stimulate interest in the study of geology, lapidary, and the collection of geological specimens
- We are a member of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Washington State Mineral Council. We are affiliated with the American 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

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

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



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

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

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 gift exchange. The gift doesn't have to be rock-related just something you would enjoy getting

When: Saturday, December 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 with any questions 424-6525

