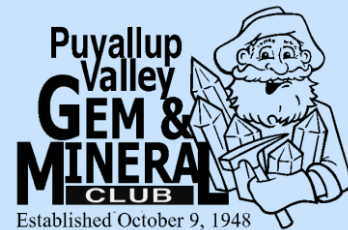


ROCK-A-TEER



Newsletter of the Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club

Jillian Higgins

Issue 93

Volume 145

October

2025

THIS ISSUE

President's Perspective & Fieldtrip Report P.2

October Club House Schedule P.3

Meet the Member P.4

Membership Renewal Form P.5

Nomination Committee Report P.6

Clubhouse Report P.6

Associations Director Report P.7

Field Trip Recap P.7

Article: Ruby and Sapphire - Part 2 P.8.12

From the Bench P.12

Community Supporters P.13

Mineral of the Month P.13

Local Area Shows P.14

2025 Show and Tell P.15

2025 Officers and Chairs P.16

Word Search & Happy Birthday P.17

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(253) 987-6751

President's Perspective

Tony Johnson

I just want to thank everyone who volunteered for the fair.

We had so much help and it went so smoothly, it was unbelievable. From set up, to putting the club display together, assembling the Space Needle, the volunteers for the booth, giving kids rocks, and of course tear down. We almost ran out of material, so we need to prepare for next year's fair starting now.

Thank you again to everyone in the club for doing such a great job. We really do shine as a group and as a team.

The auction will be coming up toward the end of the month. There will be an email coming out with all the details so keep your eyes out for that. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask any of the board of directors.

Field Trip Report

October 18th – Jordan Creek (Marblemount)

Meeting place - 10:00AM at Marble Mountain Fish Hatchery Hwy 20

Hunting for – Listwanite and Jade

Tools you need - Rock hammer, rubber boots or waders, and a backpack/bucket for your treasures

Access - moderate terrain, ½ mile hike from hatchery

Additional items - lunch/snacks and water, water, water. Dress in layers. Be prepared for ticks/mosquitoes

November 15th – Twin Rivers (Joyce)

Meeting place - 10:00Aam Joyce General Store on Hwy 112

Hunting for – Concreations

Tools you need - Rock hammer, shovel, hammer, backpack/bucket for your treasures

Access - easy terrain, based on the tides

Additional items - lunch/snacks and water, water, water. Dress for wet weather in layers

Please remember that even though we love to meet new people, fieldtrips are a member benefit and part of your membership dues covers you for injury liability.

Though injuries are rare, and we do everything we can to avoid them, we are going out into nature, and uncontrollable environment.

All individuals attending field trips will have to sign a release of liability, and if you are bringing guests, we will try to entice them into join the club by having Membership applications available.

OCTOBER 2025 CLUB HOUSE SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	INSTRUCTOR
1	Wednesday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Dennis Batchelor
		4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tony Johnson
2	Thursday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tony Johnson
3	Friday				
4	Saturday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tony Johnson
5	Sunday				
6	Monday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tasha Parker
7	Tuesday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Open Access - Beginner	Club House	Ed & Wes
8	Wednesday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Dennis Batchelor
		4:00PM-8:00PM	Wire Wrapping	Club House	Tony Johnson
9	Thursday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tony Johnson
10	Friday	6:00PM	Club Board Meeting	Fruitland Grange	Dennis Batchelor
		7:30PM	Club Business Meeting	Fruitland Grange	Tony Johnson
11	Saturday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Precious Metal Clay	Club House	Sonora Hauser
12	Sunday				
13	Monday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tasha Parker
		7:00PM-8:00PM	Opal Club Business Meet.	Club House	Tony Johnson
14	Tuesday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Open Access - Beginner	Club House	Ed & Wes
15	Wednesday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Dennis Batchelor
		4:00PM-8:00PM	Opal Cutting	Club House	Tony Johnson
16	Thursday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tony Johnson
17	Friday				
18	Saturday	See Fieldtrip Report	Jordan Creek	Field Trip	Nate White
		10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tony Johnson
19	Sunday				
20	Monday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tasha Parker
21	Tuesday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Open Access - Beginner	Club House	Ed & Wes
22	Wednesday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Dennis Batchelor
		4:00PM-8:00PM	Silversmithing	Club House	Pati Augustine
23	Thursday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tony Johnson
24	Friday	6:00PM	Club Auction & Potluck	Fruitland Grange	Tony Johnson
25	Saturday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Intarsia	Club House	Tony Johnson
26	Sunday				
27	Monday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tasha Parker
28	Tuesday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Open Access - Beginner	Club House	Ed & Wes
29	Wednesday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Dennis Batchelor
		4:00PM-8:00PM	Mini Pine Tree/Christmas	Club House	Dana James
30	Thursday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Open Access	Club House	Tony Johnson
31	Friday				

For questions about a specific class or event, contact the instructor

Dennis Batchelor (360) 870-8741

Wes Ames (253) 376-7871

Tony Johnson (253) 753-5938

Tasha Parker (206) 291-8068

Ed Knoll (253) 651-7453

*** **Members Open Access** is the time when members can use the saws and cabbng machines

This schedule is subject to change. Please check the club website for updated information.

Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club

Membership Renewal

*** PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY ***

Web Site: <http://puyallupvalleygemandmineralclub.com>

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES: ▶ Single - \$25.00 ▶ Family (2 or more) - \$30.00

[Dues are due October 1st for the next calendar year and half price beginning July 1st for the current year]

YEAR: **2025**

FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS, ALL INDIVIDUALS MUST LIVE AT THE SAME RESIDENCE

☐ SINGLE RENEWAL

☐ FAMILY RENEWAL

PRINT YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME:

DATE OF BIRTH:

NOTE ANY CHANGES OF ADDRESS, PHONE, EMAIL, ETC, BELOW. IF SAME AS LAST YEAR, JUST CIRCLE **"SAME"**
IF YOU CIRCLE **"NEW"**, PLEASE ENTER THE NEW INFORMATION BELOW.

ADDRESS: (CIRCLE ONE) **SAME OR NEW**:

PHONE: (CIRCLE ONE) **SAME OR NEW**:

EMAIL: (CIRCLE ONE) **SAME OR NEW**:

OTHER: (CIRCLE ONE) **SAME OR NEW**:

FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP, CONFIRM/NAME OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS BELOW AND CIRCLE 'ADULT' OR 'CHILD' (under 18)

(Circle one) **Adult OR Child**

DATE OF BIRTH:

(Circle one) **Adult OR Child**

DATE OF BIRTH:

(Circle one) **Adult OR Child**

DATE OF BIRTH:

Please let the Membership Chairperson know as soon as any changes occur in the above information!

Names, addresses and phone numbers are provided to the Club Treasurer, Membership Chairperson and Board Members.

>>OTHER THAN THE ABOVE, PVG&MC DOES NOT SHARE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION<<

Give this completed form and your payment to the Treasurer or mail to: **PVG&MC, P.O. Box 134, Puyallup, WA 98371**

For Expedited processing mail to: Jillian Higgins c/o PVG&MC, 22509 120th St. Ct. E. Bonney Lake, WA 98391

*** **NEVER SEND CASH THROUGH THE MAIL** *** **Make checks payable to: PVG&MC** ***

[Upon receipt of this form with payment, a membership card will be created for you and be available by email, or mailed upon request.]

As a member of the Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club, I agree to abide by the rules of the Rock Hounding Code of Ethics, the Standard Operating Procedures, and the BY-LAWS of the Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club.

Member's Signature:

Date:

Official Use Only:

Amount: \$

Membership #:

☐ Cash

☐ Check [#

Card Issue Date:

☐ Credit Card

Roster Entry Date:

Receiver's Initials:

Email Date:

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Revised September 4, 2021

Nomination Committee Report

The nominating committee is publishing the recommendations for the 2026 club board as follows. The committee will be providing this information to all club members by email as well as newsletter. Nominees will be confirmed by the club at the October business meeting.

The nominating committee recommends the following club members for the 2026 Board of Directors.

President: Glenn Rodrick
Vice President: Dennis Batchelor
Secretary: Mary New
Treasurer: Jillian Higgins
Associations Director: Mark Baumann
1 Year Director: Richard Yang
2 Year Director: Tony Johnson
1 Year Trustee: Paul Haak
2 Year Trustee: Wes Ames

SUNSHINE REPORT

With everything going on, we have started meeting again, but our attendance at the meetings is still low as members are staying safe. As a group we need to bring to each other's attention members who need healing thoughts or prayer sent their way.

If you know of anyone else who needs to be recognized in next months Sunshine Report , please email or call

Tony Johnson at ynotopals@outlook.com (253) 863-9238

Clubhouse report

Tony Johnson

Things are going well at the clubhouse. Make sure you schedule in advance if you can.

We are ordering more blades and are getting small replacement parts for the other equipment.

This Sunday is the cleanup at the clubhouse. If you can make it, please drop by to help with the maintenance efforts.

I will be out of town Monday, October 6th coming back around Sunday, October 12th. If you have any questions, please reach out to any of the instructors, Dennis, Ed, Wes, or Tasha. They should be able to help with anything you need.

Associations Director Report

Hello my fellow rockhounds and pepplepups.

I hope everyone has been able to engage with some aspect of our awesome hobby this past month. I personally spent time at our club's booth at the Washington State Fair handing out rocks to kids and answering questions about our hobby and club. Also, I did some rock cutting at our clubhouse and went thrift store rock hunting.

I went to the Washington State Mineral Council meeting on the 16th of this month. Not to much going on there. Their next meeting will be on Tuesday October 21 at the Maplewood Rock and Gem Club's clubhouse. Meeting starts at 7 PM.

The only real thing going on federally is the Department of Agriculture deciding on June 23rd to rescind the U.S. Roadless Rule which was implemented in 2001 by the Clinton administration. Basically it prohibited new road construction, reconstruction and timber harvesting. The reason given for rescinding the rule was to allow for better forest management and better access to fight wildfires.

There is nothing to report on the state level. Probably won't be anything happening until after the legislature convenes after the first of the new year.

A couple things have crop up over the last couple of months that me concerned. I won't go into specifics but will address a few things. First off it is up to us to know the laws and rules that cover rockhounding. If you don't know or aren't sure ask the proper authorities or look it up the websites of the departments that govern the areas you are interested in. A lot of areas we used to collect in are closed because of individuals either willing or unwittingly doing things they shouldn't be doing. Lastly don't be upset with a field trip coordinator if a field trip is cancelled. Generally trips aren't cancelled unless there are circumstances that would make it unsafe for the attendees. It is better to err on the side of caution that to put people into unsafe conditions.

Respectfully submitted by
Mark Baumann
PVGAMC Associations Director

Field Trip Recap

Nate White

The field trip to Little Naches was cancelled due to fire danger in the area. Hopefully next year we will be able to make it work.

Ruby and Sapphire – Part 2

Red corundums are rubies. Blue corundums are sapphires. Trace elements produce their colors.

Author: [Hobart M. King](#), PhD, GIA Graduate Gemologist

Popularity of Ruby and Sapphire

Ruby and sapphire are extremely popular gemstones. Virtually every jewelry store that features colored gemstones in jewelry will have a generous portion of their display dedicated to ruby and sapphire items. Ruby is the most popular red gemstone, and sapphire is the most popular blue gemstone.

The pie chart on this page shows the share of colored stone imports on a dollar-value basis that went to the categories of sapphire, ruby, emerald, and all other gemstone varieties during the 2015 calendar year. It shows that sapphire and ruby were the second and third most imported colored stones during that year. A total of \$464 million worth of sapphire was imported, and a total of \$149 million worth of ruby was imported.

Although the pie chart does not include domestic colored stone production, it can be considered as nearly complete. The United States Geological Survey estimates that the value of the total domestic production of colored stones of all kinds in the United States during calendar year 2015 was only \$8.5 million.



Star sapphire: Some specimens of sapphire and ruby contain a very fine "silk" of fibrous inclusions that parallel the crystallographic axes of the mineral. When these stones are cut into cabochons with their c-axis penetrating their base at right angles, a six-rayed star can be seen floating on the surface of the cabochon. These are known as "star sapphires" or "star rubies," according to their color. [Public domain](#) photography by Mitchell Gore.

Mining Rubies and Sapphires

Most gem-grade corundum forms in [metamorphic rocks](#), such as [schist](#) or [gneiss](#); or in [igneous rocks](#) such as [basalt](#) or syenite. However, gem corundums are rarely mined from the rocks in which they form. Mining small gems from hard rock is possible, but it is very expensive, and many of the gems are broken during the mining process. Fortunately, corundum is very hard and resistant to weathering. In many areas, natural weathering and erosion have liberated the stones from their host rock, and carried them into streams over long periods of geologic time.

Today, the gems are mined from these stream sediments. Their high specific gravity relative to other sediment particles often causes currents to concentrate them in small placer deposits. Most rubies and sapphires are produced by washing the gravels of these stream deposits. This work is often done by hand because the deposits are small and irregular in shape and character. These deposits are often located in countries when wages are very low and artisanal mining is prevalent.

Noteworthy locations where gem-quality corundums have been produced include Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, China, Australia, Madagascar, Kenya, Tanzania, Nigeria, and Malawi.



Black star sapphire: A black star sapphire 8 mm x 6 mm cabochon from Thailand. Inclusions within the stone align with the crystallographic axis to produce a six-ray silvery star. When the star is clearly visible and centered, as in this example, the base of the stone intersects the c-axis of the corundum crystal at 90 degrees. This stone has been heat treated to darken the stone and enhance the visibility of the star.

Explosion of Global Sapphire Resources

Two of the more spectacular events in the history of gemstone mining occurred when heat treatment discoveries enabled geuda (a milky white to brownish corundum, found mainly in Sri Lanka) to be converted into beautiful blue gems. Worthless corundum had suddenly become valuable! Until then the worldwide resource of blue sapphire rough was becoming more limited with each passing year. This discovery produced an instantaneous increase in the sapphire resource of Sri Lanka, and possibly similar increases in the sapphire resource in other parts of the world.

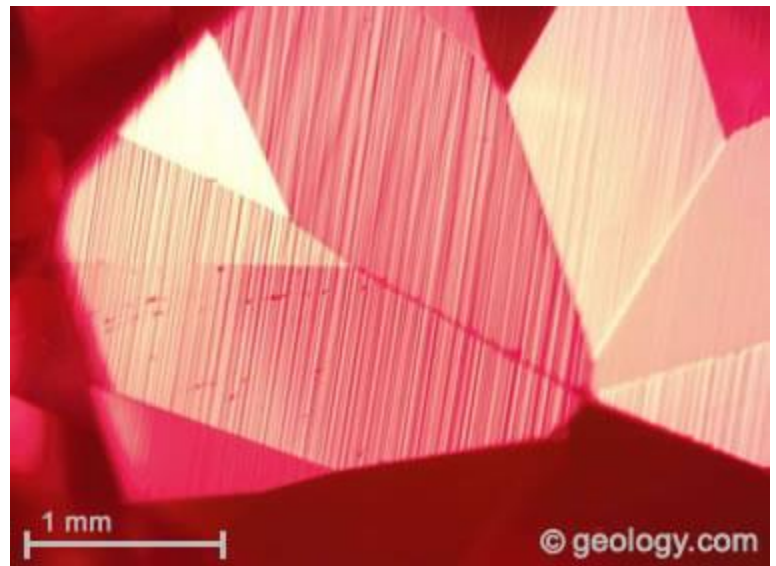
Within a short time, similar heat treatment methods were being used on a variety of smoky corundum called "dhun" that is found in Madagascar. It was easy to treat and extremely abundant, with no other competing use. This produced another increase in the world sapphire resource through the discovery of a treatment method.

Then came a treatment known as "lattice diffusion." This is a method in which corundum is heated in the presence of another material that can donate tiny atoms, such as [beryllium](#). Heat causes the corundum lattice to expand enough that the tiny beryllium atoms can enter. When the corundum is cooled, the lattice begins to contract to its original size and shape, but the trapped atoms inside prevent that. The deformed lattice then transmits light in a different way, and the color of the corundum is changed. Beryllium diffusion can produce orange, yellow, and pink colors. [Titanium](#) diffusion can produce blue corundum.

These heat and lattice diffusion treatments have transformed worthless material and worthless deposits into valuable resources. They enabled an additional income stream from working mines, and suddenly gave previously-mined sediment in many parts of the world another chance at production. The value of this rough will not be as high as the value of rough with a natural blue color, but it will mean future jobs, future gems, and future sales.

Detecting Synthetic Corundum: Examination with a microscope is the best method for detecting synthetic ruby and sapphire. When these gems are manufactured, growth features and other characteristics provide some of the strongest evidence for the synthetic manufacturing of ruby

and other varieties of corundum. In the flame fusion synthesis method, growth lines develop in the crystal as the boule turns under the material feed. Near the center of the boule, these growth lines have a strong curvature. Near the outer circumference of the boule, the growth lines have a much gentler curvature. The growth lines can be difficult to see. They are only visible when viewed at a limited range of angles under certain lighting conditions. The growth lines in this synthetic ruby are very coarse. Their crossing of facet junctions confirms that they are within the stone and are not polishing lines on facet surfaces.



Synthetic star ruby: Laboratories have been able to mass-produce synthetic star corundum since the Lindy division of Union Carbide flooded the gem market with them in the 1950s and 1960s. This synthetic red corundum has a visible six-ray star and a faceted back to enhance the brightness of the stone.

Synthetic Corundum

Rubies and sapphires have been highly sought after in many parts of the world for over one thousand years. Deposits that produce high-quality stones of good color have attracted enormous

amounts of attention and have been heavily exploited. As a result, buyers who need large quantities of quality stones are having a harder time finding them in the volumes needed for today's jewelry marketplace.

Let's imagine a jewelry manufacturer who wants to create enough matching ruby pendant, ring, and earring sets to supply a large jewelry chain with over 1000 stores and a busy internet site. This manufacturer will need at least four nice rubies for each matching set, multiplied by enough sets to supply over 1000 stores and a busy internet site.

This manufacturer will need hundreds of thousands, if not millions of rubies, all color-matched into sets and all cut into calibrated shapes and sizes. On the production side, the labor needed to discover, mine, grade, cut, and

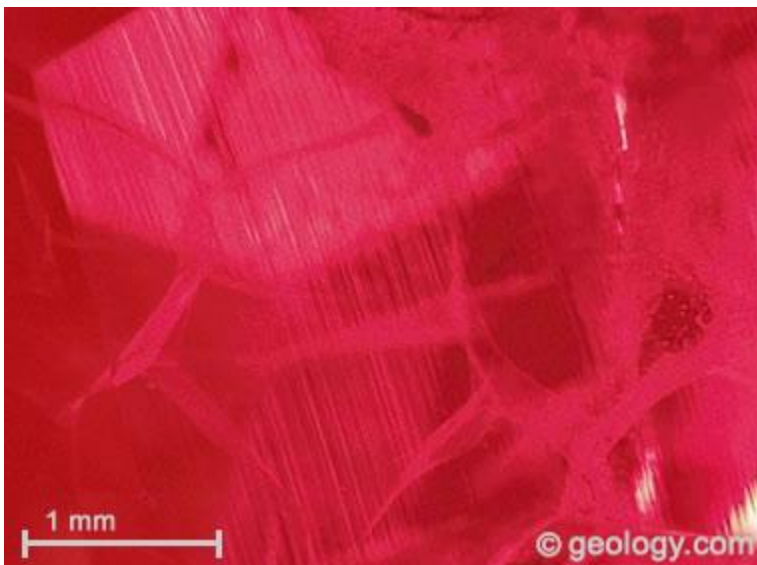
polish these stones will be enormous. An enormous effort will also be needed on the manufacturing side just to find enough sellers to provide them, confirm their quality, negotiate prices, make large numbers of purchases, and deliver the stones to the manufacturing facility.

Sourcing millions of natural rubies, sorted and cut to specifications will be a very difficult and time-consuming job. However, sourcing synthetic stones is a much easier and less costly job. This is why laboratories capable of reliably producing synthetic rubies and sapphires of consistent size, color, grade, and appearance have found an important place in the gemstone market.

If you go shopping in the United States and look at the ruby and sapphire jewelry offered in many famous-name mall jewelry stores and department stores in the under \$100 to \$500 price range, you will find that many of the jewelry items are made using "lab-created" or "lab-grown" or "synthetic" rubies and sapphires.

The synthetic corundum in this jewelry is perfect in color, has wonderful clarity and is extremely attractive. Many shoppers see the lower price and better appearance of the synthetic materials when compared to natural stones of similar size and opt to purchase the synthetic. It is a logical choice based upon what appeals to the person and what they are willing to pay. They get great appearance at a lower price.

Natural gemstones are a finite resource that will become more difficult to obtain and more expensive over time. As a result, buyers will probably see more synthetic stones offered in most jewelry stores and should expect to see the price difference between synthetic stones and natural stones of similar size, color, and quality become greater in the future.



Trying to Fool Gemologists? You are looking down through a ruby that is broken by a honeycomb-shaped network of fractures. The diagonal and slightly curved striations are strong evidence that this ruby is synthetic. It is possible that this synthetic ruby was quench crackled to ruin its perfect clarity and make it look more like a natural ruby - both to the naked eye and through a microscope.

Know What You Are Buying

Synthetic rubies, sapphires and other types of gems are easy to find in the marketplace. Many stores sell them, and they account for a very significant percentage of the rubies and sapphires sold today. There is nothing wrong with selling them and nothing wrong with buying them. However, the essential part of the transaction is for the seller to clearly disclose that they are man-made and for the buyer to fully understand that they are man-made.

Sellers should make this essential communication at the time of sale by displaying synthetic gems with obvious labels, informing the customer verbally, and providing a receipt that clearly indicates that they are man-made. They might be called "man-made," "synthetic," "lab-grown," "lab-created" or some other terminology that the buyer understands.

A benefit of buying a natural ruby or a natural sapphire is knowing that your gem was created by nature. A benefit of buying a synthetic ruby or sapphire is obtaining a stone with excellent clarity and color at an affordable price. Many people have additional benefits in mind when they go shopping for jewelry.

If You Are Buying a Ruby or Sapphire...

You should know that various types of rubies and sapphires are offered for sale. Some are natural gemstones, some are natural gemstones that have been treated by people to improve their appearance, and some are synthetic gemstones created by people. Many buyers have a strong preference for untreated natural gemstones and are willing to pay a premium price for them. Others find treated gems acceptable, especially at a lower price. Some will never purchase a synthetic gemstone, but others enjoy synthetic gemstones because they generally have an attractive appearance and an attractive price.

There is nothing wrong about any of these options. It is all about personal preference and the amount that you want to spend.

The vendor who is selling these items should educate you about what you are buying in language that you understand, and information about your purchase should be written on your receipt. If you are uncertain about anything, then you should feel free to ask questions. If you have any concerns about what you are buying, then it is probably a good idea to delay the purchase or buy elsewhere. You can simply tell the vendor that "I need to think about this a little longer."

If you are purchasing a very expensive item, it is a good idea to have it identified by a gemological laboratory and receive a report from the lab. This will involve sending the item to the lab, paying a small fee, and a wait of two or three weeks to receive the lab report. Your purchase can be contingent upon the lab report being in agreement with information provided by the vendor. Even if the vendor already has a report, you can ask to have one prepared by the lab of your choice.

In summary, you should understand what you are buying, know that you have many options, and be comfortable with both the item and the price.

FROM THE BENCH

This is going to be a 5-part series. If you wanted to print and tape them together, I bet they would look really good on the wall of your shop!

LAPS USED TO POLISH GEMS

Hardness 5 to 6. (Group Two Faceting for Amateurs)

Prepare surface on 1200 or 3000 lap, also Ultralaps

Polish laps: Tin/lead, tin, typemetal, Last Lap, Fast Lap, Pol-A-Gem cerium oxide, lucite (Plexiglas)

Agent; cerium oxide, alumina, tin oxide, others.

Speed; 100 to 200 rpm, sometimes slower.

Mineral examples; datolite, diopside, enstatite, natrolite, obsidian, opal, glass.

Synthetics; Fabulite, Linobate, Victoria stone, other soft synthetics.

Next month's segment: Hardness 6 to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$, to be continued...

COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

	<p style="text-align: center;">South Hill RV Sales</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Offering the highest rated starter, midline, and high end towables and RV's at the lowest prices which has made us a top volume dealer in Washington state.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12414 Meridian East, Puyallup 98373 253-435-7751 or 866-435-7751 www.southhillrv.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">H & I Lapidary</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Amber, Jewelry, Beads, Findings, Gemstones, Slabs, Rough Material, Fossils, and Aussie items.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mike and LaVon Siperek (253) 531-7294 4203 E 99th Street, Tacoma, WA 98446 Yankees_Diesel@comcast.net</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Jerry's Rock & Gem</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rocks, Minerals, Fossils, Equipment, Beading Supplies, Gemstones, Jewelry and Jewelry Repair</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(253) 852-0539 804 West Valley Hwy, Kent, WA 98032 http://jerrysrockandgem.com/</p>

MINERAL OF THE MONTH

If you said “these look like Apatite”, you are correct. Apatite is incredible in that it is both a mineral and in some cases the higher quality material can be made into gemstones. All of the cut stones were examples of the color variations of apatite.

Apatite is a group of phosphate minerals that can be different shades of green (the most common color), yellow, blue, purple, pink, or brown. Apatite is a very difficult stone to work because it is a brittle mineral that breaks both due to fractures and cleavages. It is hard to locate the cleavages, so you just have to go for it if you are wanting to make a cabochon. As with all phosphate minerals, apatite is formed from organic debris, bones, teeth, or scales, that collect mostly in marine environments. Hydrothermal veins, or pegmatite pockets produce the more gem quality apatite occurs as well-formed hexagonal crystals, which are highly sought after. Very rarely, fine parallel rutile crystals can permeate translucent apatite, which when cut correctly produce chatoyancy, otherwise known as Cat's Eye.



As an odd twist, most apatite is ground up into a fine powder and used as fertilizer because of the high phosphorus content.

Local Area Shows for 2025

DATE & TIME	CLUB	SHOW	LOCATION
June 2025 28th 10am - 5pm 29th 10am - 5pm	Cascade Mineralogical Society	Annual show	Kent Commons 525 4th Ave N Kent, WA
July 2025 25th 9am—6pm 26th 9am—6pm 27th 9am—5pm	Washington Agate and Mineral Society	2025 Rock & Gem Rendezvous	Tenino City Park 300 Park Ave W Tenino WA
August 2025 8th 10am - 5pm 9th 10am - 5pm 10th 10am - 3pm	Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral club	2025 Jim Christian Memorial Show In The Trees	Tacoma Sportsmen's club 16409 Canyon Rd East Puyallup, WA
August 2025 10th 10am-4pm	Fraser Valley Rock and Gem Club	Annual Tailgate	Aldergrove Legion 26607 Fraser Hwy Aldergrove, BC
August 2025 16th 9am—5pm	Shelton Rock and Mineral Society	15th Annual Tailgate Rock Sale and Swap Meet Tailgate spots \$40	MCRA 2100 E Johns Prairie Rd Shelton, WA
August 2025 16th 10am - 5pm 17th 10am - 5pm	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Annual Summer Rock and Mineral Sale	Maplewood Clubhouse 8802 196th St SW Edmonds, WA
August 2025 20th 10am—4pm 21st 10am—4pm	Fraser Valley Rock and Gem Club	Annual show	Aldergrove Kinsmen Community Center 26770 39th Ave Aldergrove, BC
September 2025 6th 10am – 5pm 7th 10am – 4pm	Southern Washington Mineralogical Society	58th Annual show	Cowlitz Co. Fairgrounds Events Center 1900 7th Ave Longview, WA
September 2025 6th 10am – 5pm 7th 10am – 5pm	Marcus Whitman Gem & Mineral Society	Annual show	Walla Walla County Fairgrounds Pavilion Event Center 363 Orchard Street Walla Walla, WA
October 2025 3rd 10am-6pm 4th 10am - 6pm 5th 10am—5pm	Portland Regional Rock and Gem Show	44th Annual \$7, under 12 free with adult	Wingspan Event Center 801 NE 34th Ave Hillsboro, OR
October 2025 4th 10am - 5pm 5th 10am—5pm	Marysville Rock and Gem club	49th Annual Rocktoberfest	Evergreen State Fairgrounds Display Bldg #500 14405 179th Ave SE Monroe, WA
November 2025 22nd 10am - 5pm 23rd 10am - 5pm	Kitsap Mineral and Gem Society	Fall Festival of Gems	The President's Hall 1250 NW Fairgrounds Road Bremerton, WA

2025 SHOW & TELL THEMES and PROGRAM NIGHT EVENTS

MEETING	DATE	SHOW & TELL THEME	PROGRAM NIGHT EVENT
January - 1st Meeting	January 10, 2025	Crystals or any field trip finds	
January - 2nd Meeting	January 24, 2025	Fossils or any field trip finds	Field Trip Finds
February - 1st Meeting	February 14, 2025	Red & Pink or any field trip finds	
February - 2nd Meeting	February 28, 2025	Hearts Made of Stone or any field trip finds	Carl Carlson
March - 1st Meeting	March 14, 2025	Green or any field trip finds	
March - 2nd Meeting	March 28, 2025		Jerry's Rock Shop
April - 1st Meeting	April 11, 2025	Obsidian or any field trip finds	
April - 2nd Meeting	April 25, 2025	No Show & Tell	Auction/Potluck
May - 1st Meeting	May 9, 2025	Thundereggs or any field trip finds	
May - 2nd Meeting	May 23, 2025	Intarsia or any field trip finds	Fluorescent Minerals
June - 1st Meeting	June 13, 2025	Any Agates or any field trip finds	
June - 2nd Meeting	June 27, 2025	No Show & Tell	Tailgate Party @ Grange Parking Lot
July - 1st Meeting	July 11, 2025	Lookalike Rocks or any field trip finds	
July - 2nd Meeting	July 25, 2025	No Show & Tell	Jerry Rock & Gem
August - 1st Meeting	August 8, 2025	Jaspers or any field trip finds	
August - 2nd Meeting	August 23, 2025	No Show & Tell	Picnic & Tailgate Party at club house on Saturday
September - 1st Meeting	September 12, 2025	Gemstones or any field trip finds	
September - 2nd Meeting	September 26, 2025	No Show & Tell	Mini Demonstration
October - 1st Meeting	October 10, 2025	Opals or any field trip finds	
October - 2nd Meeting	October 24, 2025	No Show & Tell	Auction/Potluck
November - 1st Meeting	November 14, 2025	Weird Rocks or any field trip	
November - 2nd Meeting	November 28, 2025	No Show & Tell	BINGO Night
December - 1st Meeting	December 13, 2025	No Show & Tell	Holiday Banquet/Officer Installation on Saturday
December - 2nd Meeting	No Meeting	No Show & Tell	

2025 Elected Officers

Title	Name	Phone	Email
President:	Tony Johnson	(253)753-5938	johnsontony068@gmail.com
Vice President:	Dennis Batchelor	(360)870-8741	hobbyhorse51@gmail.com
Secretary:	Mary New	(253)307-1389	marynew59@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Jillian Higgins	(253)355-3146	J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com
Association Director:	Mark Baumann	(253-310-5891	rocksnreptiles4me@gmail.com
1 Year Director:	Tasha Parker	(206)291-8068	surfangel830@gmail.com
2 Year Director:	Richard Yang	(208)596-8340	ryang0711@gmail.com
1 Year Trustee:	Glenn Rodrick	(253)531-4062	gtrodi@comcast.net
2 Year Trustee:	Nathan White	(206)349-7054	nate.white77@gmail.com

2025 Committee Chairs

Title	Name	Phone	Email
Clubhouse Coordinator	Tony Johnson	(253)753-5938	johnsontony068@gmail.com
Club Show Coordinator	Jillian Higgins	(253)355-3146	J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com
Field Trips Coordinator	Nathan White	(206)349-7054	nate.white77@gmail.com
Web Master	Jillian Higgins	(253)355-3146	J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com
Editor/Communications	Jillian Higgins	(253)355-3146	J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com
Membership	Jillian Higgins	(253)355-3146	J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com
Sunshine	Tony Johnson	(253)753-5938	johnsontony068@gmail.com
Newsletter	Jillian Higgins	(253)355-3146	J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com
Mineral Council	Mark Baumann	(253-310-5891	rocksnreptiles4me@gmail.com



WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL

The Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club is a member of the American Lands Access Association and the Washington State Mineral Council. You can find more information about the ALAA at: amlands.org or the WA Mineral Council at:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October 2025

Megan Worley – 1st
 Jason Stone – 2nd
 Bruce Armond – 3rd
 Teri Graves – 3rd
 Caleb Perez – 4th
 Gwen Chase – 5th
 Erin Dickinson – 5th
 Dan Pierce – 5th
 Stephany Gooden – 5th
 Kavan Walsh – 5th
 Loren Gates – 6th
 Fay Harvey – 6th
 Jeff Staples – 6th
 Brenda Guay – 7th
 Maria Yang – 8th
 Matthew Kalm – 9th
 Christ Watt – 9th
 Tensie Petersen – 10th
 Raen Ruprecht – 10th
 Virginia Patterson – 11th
 Adrienne Berg – 12th
 Steve Maier – 13th
 Nick Stratton – 14th
 Kristine Farber – 15th
 Michael Wheat – 15th
 Ruth Foster – 17th
 Crystal Day – 18th
 Laura Gowans – 18th
 Landis Hatch – 18th
 Donna Terry – 18th
 Sadie Crane -21st
 Jillian Higgins – 21st
 Ashley Gould – 21st
 Ryan Duckner – 21st
 Nina Alflen – 22nd
 Lydia Forsythe – 22nd
 Stacey Klinzman – 23rd
 Tim Swift – 23rd
 Liz Bingham – 24th
 Cory Charpentier – 24th
 Mindy Graddon – 25th
 Michael Obrien Jr. – 25th
 Conchita Lim – 25th
 Sylvia Gadberry – 27th
 Emily Horton-King – 27th

NAME THAT AGATE

E	L	L	E	N	S	B	U	R	G	B	L	U	E	C	E	F
O	N	W	N	A	C	G	G	E	R	E	D	N	U	H	T	O
P	I	O	H	E	N	I	M	O	N	T	A	N	A	A	F	R
L	P	B	Y	A	T	U	T	B	A	N	D	E	D	L	E	T
U	O	N	D	H	P	U	G	I	R	E	A	G	A	C	E	I
M	M	I	R	P	B	G	R	A	R	D	O	B	I	E	D	F
E	O	A	O	E	P	A	R	I	L	D	L	E	T	D	F	I
C	A	R	N	E	L	I	A	N	E	U	N	I	E	O	E	C
A	A	E	Y	E	A	G	A	T	E	H	N	E	T	N	C	A
L	N	P	B	R	Z	E	A	L	Y	E	M	E	D	Y	A	T
N	A	S	A	I	D	I	A	D	G	T	L	O	C	W	L	I
A	W	S	L	F	C	C	F	A	I	R	B	U	R	N	Y	O
C	S	O	I	C	E	O	S	P	R	I	D	A	Y	S	Z	N
I	T	M	E	A	A	N	I	K	S	E	K	A	N	S	A	K
X	O	R	E	T	A	W	T	E	E	W	S	R	P	U	R	V
E	B	R	A	Z	I	L	I	A	N	D	D	U	O	L	C	O
M	Y	R	T	N	I	O	P	D	R	A	Y	E	V	A	R	G

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. BANDED | 11. ELLENSBURG BLUE | 21. MOSS |
| 2. BLUE LACE | 12. ENHYDRO | 22. NIPOMO |
| 3. BOTSWANA | 13. EYE AGATE | 23. PLUME |
| 4. BRAZILIAN | 14. FAIRBURN | 24. PRIDAY |
| 5. BRECCIATED | 15. FIRE | 25. RAINBOW |
| 6. CARNELIAN | 16. FORTIFICATION | 26. SAGENITE |
| 7. CHALCEDONY | 17. GRAVEYARD POINT | 27. SNAKESKIN |
| 8. CLOUD | 18. LAGUNA | 28. SWEETWATER |
| 9. CRAZY LACE | 19. MEXICAN LACE | 29. THUNDER EGG |
| 10. DENDRITIC | 20. MONTANA | 30. TUBE |

Daniel Conn – 27th
 Roberta Wheat – 27th
 Deborah Passmore – 28th
 Pattie Dailey-Shives – 28th
 Paul James – 29th
 Kevin Higgins – 30th
 William Roberts – 30th
 Debbie Mays – 31st



ROCK-A-TEER

Newsletter of Puyallup Valley

Gem & Mineral Club

P.O. Box 134

Puyallup, WA 98371