



BUGLE



Published by
RIPPLE ROCK GEM & MINERAL CLUB
Box 6, Campbell River, BC, V9W 4Z9

Editor: Gordon Burkholder
Format Design: Janet Burkholder

Volume 27
Copy 6

June 2016

Regular monthly meeting
2nd Friday each month at 7:30 pm
(Except June, July & August)
Craft Room, Campbell River Community Hall
401-11th Ave
Campbell River, BC



RIPPLE ROCK GEM & MINERAL CLUB

RIPPLE ROCK EXECUTIVE 2016

President	Kathy Young	250-285-3343
Vice-President	Linda Henderson	250-286-1718
Past President	Gordon Burkholder	250-923-1740
Secretary	Steve Cooley	250-287-4388
Treasurer	Dennis Cambrey	250-337-8949
Wagonmaster	Shane Mawhinney	250-285-3465
Assistant Wagonmaster(s)	Ken Palmblad	
Show Chair	Pat Doyle	
Shop Coordinator	Beba Adams	250-926-0044
Shop Maintenance		
Entertainment		250-285-2377
Publicity	Diane Cooper	250-830-0889
Bugle Editor & Distribution	Gordon Burkholder	250-923-1740
Non-Executive Positions		
Webpage Manager	Janet Burkholder	info@ripplerockgemandmineralclub.com
Library	Linda Henderson	250-286-1718
Showcase	Beba Adams	250-926-0044
Slab Draw/Collection	Beba Adams	250-926-0044
Coffee Break	Jack and Jan Boyes	
Basic Lapidary Instructor	Steve Cooley	250-287-4388

Delegates to Vancouver Island Zone Meetings

Senior	Gordon Burkholder
Intermediate	Jan Boyes
Junior	Ulla Williams

WORKSHOP

Shop located at 246 Dahl Rd.
 For general shop info contact
Beba Adams 250-926-0044
The workshop hours are posted on the club website.
www.ripplerockgemandmineralclub.com

MEMBERSHIPS

A single membership is \$15.00 and a family is \$25.00. Memberships may be paid at the General meetings or by mail to Box 6 Campbell River, BC, V9W 4Z9.

General Meeting Date

June's general meeting is on **Friday June 3rd** at the same time, **7:30** and in the same location; Craft room at the **Community Centre**

President's Report

At this time of year we are really focused on the Show. Things are progressing and Pat will have more to say on this. Our annual picnic is ahead of us as well as our summer hiatus from meetings. The lapidary shop will be open for a month after the show and then close for its annual clean-up. Beba will give us the exact dates. With the break for summer collecting and other rock related ideas please take some time to consider working for the Club in an executive position. There are many roles coming up for 'election' and many opportunities to help out. It truly is a great way to learn more about rocks while giving back to your fellow members so please consider stepping forward. A complete list of positions is found on the 2nd page of this publication and job descriptions can be viewed on our website.

Happy Trails!

Kathy Young

Vice President's View

The library is still full of great reading And viewing so if you want to get more educated during the next few months give it a look and let me know what you'd like. I am off to Salt Spring Island for a visit and will be getting some more rock to bring back. I will let people know what I get in case there is anything to sell.

As the person in charge of the Kids' Corner at the show I am looking for some helpers. Please let me know how much time you are willing to give or sign up at the meeting. I am looking for small flat-ish rocks for painting and creating 'rock creatures' at the table if you can help out let me know.

Have a great summer!

Linda Henderson

Show Chair

Our show is being held from the 11-12 of June at the Timberline gymnasium. The usual activities will be available at the show; gold panning, gem tree making, soapstone carving, 50/50 draw, Used Equipment sale, Silent auction, vendors, and some demonstrators.

Set up begins at 3:30 on Friday afternoon and take down follows immediately after the closing at 4:00 pm on Sunday. All members are needed to help in these activities. It takes about 2 hours to get the jobs done. More members are needed to volunteer for jobs during the 2 day show and there will be a sign-up sheet at this Friday's meeting. Call me if you can't attend the meeting to sign up.

Displays of rocks (Charlie's, the Club's and Ron McBurnie's) will be set up. I am not sure how many Show cases are needed yet for displays from Island Clubs but they will need to be picked up from our shed, set up and taken down after the show and returned to the shed.

Advertising is going on mostly in print and if you can distribute posters, pamphlets or leaflets please do so. There are several executive members who can provide you with these items.

Linda needs to have tumbled rocks for the 'grab bags' brought to her and also some small, flat, cleaned rocks for kids to paint.

There is no concession this year but we are picking up some sandwiches and drinks from a local caterer to sell to vendors and volunteers on each of the 2 days. We need to have several coolers with ice to keep things fresh and cold. Please let me know if you can provide these.

Pat Doyle

Web Site Data from the Web Master

This will be my last contribution to the "Bugle" as Web Master as I am resigning the position at the end of this month. I created the web site back in 2011 and have spent many hours trying to get the best site possible. It has been widely viewed and has received compliments from teachers and students and rock enthusiasts from many places. I always appreciate these comments as they provide evidence that there are people out there who view and use the site. I will be available for consultation with whoever takes on this important role.

Janet Burkholder

Entertainment

Deena Bowerman won the "What Am I" contest at the last meeting correctly identifying 'gold' as the answer to the clues provided. She won a club t-shirt as her prize and will be providing the next "What Am I" quiz on the 3rd.

Kathy Young

Membership

While there is nothing new to report on membership I'd like to update you on the progress of the 24" saw being built for the Club. It is nearing completion and I will have one on display at the show. Come by and have a look.

Dennis Cambrie

Wagon Master Plan

I will check to see if there is a maximum number that can go to our blast at the Rock Candy mine on July 28th. Club members will be asked to commit to their attendance or non-attendance. If it appears there will be vacancies, other clubs may be contacted to fill the spaces. Rockhounds from other clubs will be assessed a fee.

Shane Mawhinney

News from the BCLS

New Rockhounder editor

After meeting with the Executive earlier this month, I have taken over as Editor for the Rockhounder Magazine. Roxanne Cernos & Ruby Jaggernath will also be contributing to that function, and we three are looking forward to preparing the magazine for you all.

With that in mind, I would like to request that you forward the new editor email to your club members (Rockhounder@shaw.ca) and please ask them to send in submissions! If you or your members have previously submitted articles and they have not been utilized, please resubmit them! Do not hesitate! I am willing to bet that for every idea that anyone has ever had about an article, we have other members who will be interested in reading it, regards of how mundane or esoteric the subject may appear to be!

During discussions with the Executive, the idea of having some articles focused on individual clubs was raised and welcomed. In addition, if you have a location that you are willing to share with the readers, please write a piece and provide details on access! We will be following a slightly leaner format in regards to pictures in the printed version, but are hoping to coordinate with the Rockhounder's official website, so that for each issue that we release, a plethora of full size and full colour pictures will be put online, to correspond to each article – this will allow greater number (and size!) of pictures and content.

As always, any feedback or ideas are welcomed.

GW (Greg) Carson

Editor's Message

Another year of 'Bugles' is coming to completion. I have really enjoyed writing the articles, publishing information and interviewing rock hounds. I hope you have enjoyed reading these issues as much as I have in creating them. Take care!

Gordon Burkholder

Quotable quote: Any intelligent fool can make things bigger and more complex... It takes a touch of genius - and a lot of courage to move in the opposite direction. **Albert Einstein**

CREATING PATINA USING LIVER OF SULPHUR

Working with copper to construct trees and attach them to rocks has been a wonderful activity over the past 2 winters. I have experimented with several styles of constructing the trees and have varied the rock presentation as well. One other thing I have tried to do to provide variety in my work is in giving the copper a treatment of Liver of Sulphur. I am not completely satisfied with the results and this may in part be due to the age of my liver of sulfur but I'd like to give you an idea of how the process is accomplished. What

follows is a step-by-step approach to creating patina in metals using liver of sulfur that I got from a site called 'purveyorallthingscreative'.



Liver of sulphur works on;

- PMC, Sterling silver, copper and brass

What you'll get

- Rainbow colours to black oxidized patina

Tools and materials you will need

- Liver of sulphur
- 300ml plastic or steel container with lid for LoS solution
- 600ml plastic or steel container for neutralizing water bath
- 600ml plastic or steel container for metal cleaning solution
- Tongs, tweezers or plastic mesh basket for dipping articles
- Artist's brush
- Liquid soap
- Baking soda
- Toothbrush
- Latex gloves

Working Conditions

- Work in a well ventilated area. LoS stinks like rotten eggs even before being mixed into a solution. [My liver of sulphur is stored in a hard plastic container with a screw on lid and keeps the odor from escaping.] If you're not careful the smell can permeate into the surrounding materials!
- Avoid breathing in the gases

- LoS degrades quickly when exposed to light and air and when it is being mixed with water. And once made you will have only a short time to use the solution.
- Finish and polish the item to be oxidized before using LoS
- Wear latex gloves when cleaning the item to avoid contaminating the cleaned metal with skin oils

To clean the item

- Mix about a cup of warm water to 2 tsp of Dawn or similar type dishwashing liquid. Dip toothbrush in cleaning solution and brush all over the item.
- Rinse in clean water and let dry

Neutralizing solution

- Mix 1 cup (250ml) warm water with 2 tsp baking soda and stir to dissolve

Oxidation solution

- Mix 1 cup of hot (150° F) with a pea sized lump of LoS; about ½ -1 ounce of LoS per quart of water. *Stronger solutions can produce darker shades but they can also speed up the process and make it difficult to control the final colour.
- Stir until completely dissolved
- Dip your item into the solution using tongs or tweezers or by lowering it on the mesh basket. Beads can be strung on wire or string to dip.
- Remove any unwanted LoS with a polishing pad or similar item.
- Constantly agitate the item until desired patina is reached. You should see the colour develop and depending on the solution's temperature most items will achieve the desired effect within 30 seconds.
- When desired colour is achieved immediately remove it from the solution and place it in the neutralizing bath to stop any further chemical reactions.

Quotable quote: Everything has its limit - iron ore cannot be educated into gold. *Mark Twain*

WHAT'S THAT ROCK?

The Mineral fluorite
Submitted by Linda Henderson



Fluorite is a very popular mineral, and it naturally occurs in all colours of the spectrum. It is one of the most varied coloured minerals in the mineral kingdom, and the colours may be very intense and almost electric.

Pure Fluorite is colourless; the colour variations are caused by various impurities. Some colours are deeply colored, and are especially pretty in large well-formed crystals, which Fluorite often forms. Sometimes colouring is caused by hydrocarbons, which can be removed from a specimen by heating. Some dealers may apply oil treatment upon amateur Fluorite specimens to enhance luster.

Fluorite has interesting cleavage habits. The perfect cleavage parallel to the octahedral faces can sometimes be peeled off to smooth out a crystal into a perfect octahedron. Many crystals, especially larger ones, have their edges or sections chipped off because of the cleavage.

Fluorite is one of the more famous fluorescent minerals. Many specimens strongly fluoresce, in a great variation of colour. In fact, the word "fluorescent" is derived from the mineral Fluorite. The name of the element fluorine is also derived from Fluorite, as Fluorite is by far the most common and well-known fluorine mineral.

ROCK CANDY MINE FIELDTRIP (self-promotional advertisement)

Your family can experience the thrill of finding crystal treasures in a spectacular wild mountain environment.

Imagine a place where the ground is covered with beautiful green and purple fluorite, and the land owners are friendly, so you can pick up all you want!

Our heritage 1920's mine property hosts a safe and exciting adventure.

Your guide will show you how to collect sparkling quartz crystal geodes, green and purple fluorite crystals, and our famous yellow barite crystals, while enjoying the view from our mountain top above the Granby.

We provide hammers and safety goggles. Please wear closed-toe shoes as rocks can be sharp.

Rock Candy fluorite and barite specimens are prized by museums worldwide!



Final Thought: I done wrestled with an alligator, I done tussled with a whale; handcuffed lightning, thrown thunder in jail; only last week I murdered a rock, injured a stone, and hospitalized a brick; I'm so mean I make medicine sick. *Muhammad Ali*