



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 5

May 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	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	Gordon Burkholder	250-923-1740
Non-Executive Positions		
Webpage Manager	Janet Burkholder	info@ripplerockgemand mineralclub.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.

RIPPLE ROCK CLUB NEWS

Zone Report

Ripple Rock Gem & Mineral Club,
report by by Jan Boyes

Since the annual departure of Gord and Jan Burkholder for sunnier places, Ulla has filled in as Zone Chair as well as Treasurer. The November Zone meeting at Marion Barclay's went well. The Ripple Rock Christmas Pot Luck supper in Early December was well attended. Good food, as usual. Gift exchange with the usual collection of rocks. New members have been appearing at meetings. 2 new couples at the March meeting. The bad weather and high water levels have caused field trip problems. The annual trip to the Fraser river bars was not possible. Shane found the water too high when he got there. The main focus right now is the Show. A committee has volunteered to pull it together and seem to be getting it done. The charge for the School Gymnasium is much higher this year. The silent Auction will be done twice a day. Display cases are available for club displays and if members wish to prepare personal displays of their work or specimens. Just let the club know ahead of time. There will be a used equipment table. The food vendor will be a separate item. The Library list is on the RR website <http://www.ripplerockgemandmineralclub.com/> Melissa Ticknor and family have been setting up a display table along with the Mountaineer Avian Rescue group at their displays. Beba Adams has done another wonderful showcase to take to the shows. Submitted by Jan Boyes.

Ulla submitted the Zone Financial report.

At some meeting when we have time, it is recommended that the clubs compare notes on how they run their workshops. The Summer Meeting will take place at the Cowichan Valley Gemboree , July 8th -10th, at 10am on the Sunday . More details will be sent out as they become available.

Jan Boyes

Vancouver Island Club News

Victoria Lapidary and Mineral Society

There are 87 memberships, of which 111 members are adults and 2 Juniors. There are from the Show, 4 renewals and 4 new memberships. There has been a good influx of younger members (under 30) most interested in Lapidary. The club has been doing monthly outings on a regular basis. The club is in a good financial position. The workshop is very busy whenever open and all the offered lapidary courses are full. There are questions from the membership about the function of the Zone, regarding what do we get for the time and energy spent driving long distances for meetings in the modern world—IE: could we skype meetings?

Submitted by Dave Mullett.

Cowichan Valley Rock Hound Club;

Report given by Judy Moss We presently have 49 members in our Club. Our Christmas PotLuck dinner in early December was well attended with the usual good food and socializing. The 2 workshops have been a little less busy over the last few months with members away on holidays, however the production of beautiful pieces continues. We had a field trip to Qualicum Bay in January for those that were hardy enough to attend. Actually we had a beautiful day with no rain. Our February field trip was cancelled due to high tides and winter weather. One of our club concerns is the difficulty in getting in to the back roads due to locked gates on the logging roads. A Reminder from the Gemboree Committee to get your registrations for the Gemboree.

Parksville & District Rock & Gem Club

Delivered by Marion Barclay

In January we were treated to a presentation from David Popham about Annealing Metals. David's work includes abstract art pieces as well as jewellery. He is also a silversmith. We all appreciated learning about his technique and he allowed members to try his tools to anneal metal. In March an informative presentation by Dee Theus made us aware of the metaphysical properties of minerals. She and her

husband have a store locally and she brought many specimens with her for display and for sale, while talking about their healing effects.

Field Trips: In February there were 2 field trips in the Nanaimo area. Jim McKinnon again led us to areas where we found fossils of plants and some vertebrae (small but exciting). We had a good turnout for both trips. In March there was a trip to the Sproat Lake area. That turned out to be a very wet excursion, but some members found some very interesting crystals. Family Day at Coombs -February 8, 2016. Once again this year, we participated with the Arrowsmith Agricultural Association to provide free, entertaining and educational activities for children. Our great Youth Grant Committee planned wonderful activities, which were very much appreciated by the kids and their families. Several Club members volunteered to help deliver these activities that day and everyone enjoyed themselves. Club House. On March 5th, we had an open house at our newly completed club house on Arrowsmith Grounds. 23 people attended and signed up for a myriad of activities. Jim Dixon will be giving lessons to beginners so that they may begin using the facilities safely. Although it hasn't officially opened, the club house is being used by groups for meetings, planning and preparing for events. Courtenay Joint Rock and Gem Show: April 16th and 17th. We have been very busy gathering supplies and volunteers for this important fundraiser for our club. Many people have jumped onboard to participate in order to make this a success, and we are continuing to put our efforts into ensuring that it is.

Alberni Valley Rock and Gem Club Our e-mail address has changed; The new address is avrgc@avrgc.ca Please use this address from now on. We have approximately 30 members. We held our show last weekend (12th-13th March) and the success was overwhelming. Over 1200 men, women and children passed through our doors. This was great because a Home Show was also being held in our city at the same time. Just goes to show you "Rocks Rock!" It is with Great emotion that I make this announcement. Alberni Valley Rock & Gem Club will be adding a Shop to their agenda. We have purchased about \$4000 worth of equipment for \$1200. Included was 400 pounds of rock. Everything just seemed to fall into place. We are looking at a spot in the old Arena where the Industrial Restoration group is, also the Sunshine Club woodworking club. The ball has just started rolling and will gather no moss. Don't forget our new E-mail is avrgc@avrgc.ca

Respectfully submitted by Dave West

Courtenay Gem & Mineral Club

There are 20 paid members, and we just signed on another one at the Heritage Day Show in Cumberland on February 5th. We had a display there and demonstrated using a trim saw, Genie, and Tumbler. We are working on Building a new workshop on a trailer frame which is currently at Russ and Lori Ball's property. Lori is President. It is as far as frame up, but more work is necessary (windows, wiring, etc etc.) We have had a few club field trips to Hornby Island, Horne Lake, Mt Washington, but locked gates continue to be an issue, as does the high water in the local rivers. Our Wagonmaster is Ernie Carlson at ccryley09@shaw.ca and Paulette and Terry Egeli at jp_o@hotmail.com. If you are going to be in our area, call and see if any of us are going out exploring. Lori and Russ are the Fossil Hounds in our club, and are often out searching the local rivers. djfossil@telus.net

Our Rock and gem Show is April 15th and 16th with set up after 5pm on the 14th (Friday evening). We still have some table spaces available. Please contact Lori Ball at djfossil@telus.net or call 250-703-3444
Report submitted by Paulette Egeli.

Web Site Data from the Web Master

Another class of school children has emailed me letting me know that they have accessed our website and used its contents as a resource for their research into earth science. It always makes me proud of the work I have been doing to promote our club and the things we do. I hope you have enjoyed it as well. Remember that the website is always adding new materials and to bookmark it so that you can access the information (new and old) on a regular basis.

Janet Burkholder

Editor's Message

I have been very busy around the house and in the shop since returning home. A lot of my rock work these days involves cutting large stones and using the vibratory flat-lapper to polish one or more of the

faces. These rocks are destined for the tree farm and I have been making new and larger wire trees lately to show off the rocks where they grow. All of this is to say..."Sorry for being so late with the May 'Bugle' ".
Gordon Burkholder

Quotable quote: Remember that happiness is as contagious as gloom. It should be the first duty of those who are happy to let others know of their gladness.

- Maurice Maeterlinc

ROCK SHOPS

Richardson's Recreational Ranch and Richardson's Agate Company

By Gordon Burkholder

Photos by Janet Burkholder



Looking south in the main yard

To those of us who have been rock hounding for a few years, I'm fairly certain that the name of Richardson's Ranch is very well known. A wonderful world awaits those of you who have yet to make this discovery. It is located just 11 miles north of Madras, Oregon and 3 miles off Highway 97. The actual address is 6683 N.E. Hay Creek Road. (I haven't tried that on my gps but it might work!) Look them up on the internet at www.richardsonrockranch.com I have visited them twice over the past 5 years and will come back whenever I am in the area.

Richardson's brochure states that the "ranch is a family owned and operated enterprise, providing recreation. The ranch is a working cattle ranch, supplemented by recreational activities. Highlighting the ranch are world-famous agate beds, featuring thunder eggs and ledge agate material. Rocks from all over the world can be found at our rock shop."



Just one portion of the showroom

I have never gotten on one of the digs or picked through the ledge agate that the ranch is known for because I've barely been able to get all the way around their yard. It is filled with rock wonders; some rare and others quite well known. But if you want to skip the piles of already collected materials, then the digs are probably what you want to get in on. Call the ranch office ahead of your arrival to see what, if anything is open for digging. They go out and expose new surfaces for digging and open up new ledge shelves as the supply of quality material dwindles.



Another section of the showroom

Several of the family members are actively engaged in lapidary work and create some marvelous pieces. John is quite well known for his spheres. I was amazed to see the size of the cores that have been cut out of the rocks you can find in the yard. Some are approaching 2 feet in diameter! His work is on sale in the shop.

Jokingly: Geologists don't wrinkle, they show lineation!

source: <http://jokes4us.com/miscellaneousjokes/schooljokes/geologyjokes.html>



A large core for making a sphere

The folks in the store are all very knowledgeable and will help out with any questions that you might have about the rocks or anything in the store. In the store is an area of display pieces that are truly delightful to view. The backlit agates that frame the top give the viewer a good idea of how special Oregon and Richardson's agates are.

If you have a bucket list, you might want to put this on it.

WHAT'S THAT ROCK?

Petrified Wood



Petrified wood is a **fossil**. It forms when plant material is buried by sediment and protected from decay by oxygen and organisms. Then, groundwater rich in dissolved solids flows through the sediment replacing the original plant material with **silica**, **calcite**, **pyrite** or another inorganic material such as **opal**. The result is a fossil of the original woody material that often exhibits preserved details of the bark, wood and cellular structures.

Some specimens of petrified wood are such accurate preservations that people do not realize they are fossils until they pick them up and are shocked by their weight. These specimens with near perfect preservation are unusual; however, specimens that exhibit clearly recognizable bark and woody structures are very common.



Some petrified logs contain a spectacular surprise. Cavities within them served as crystallization locations for quartz crystals such as the citrine (yellow, left) and amethyst (purple, right) shown here. Images by Petrified Forest National Park

The most famous locality for observing petrified wood is Petrified Forest National Park near the community of Holbrook in northeastern Arizona. About 225 million years ago this area was a low-land with a tropical climate and covered by a dense forest. Rivers flooded by rain storms washed mud and other sediments into the lowlands. Enormous coniferous trees up to 9 feet in diameter and 200 feet tall lived and died in these lowlands. Fallen trees and broken branches were often buried by the river sediments. Nearby **volcanoes** erupted numerous times. These eruptions blanketed the area in **volcanic ash** with a high silica content.

Rapid burial allowed the plant debris to escape destruction by oxygen and insects. The soluble ash was dissolved by groundwater flowing through the sediments. The dissolved ash served as a source of silica that replaced the plant debris, creating petrified wood. Trace amounts of iron, manganese and other minerals were included in the silica and gave the petrified wood a variety of colors. These sediments, plant debris and volcanic ash became part of a rock unit known today as the Chinle Formation.

In the millions of years after the Chinle Formation was deposited the area was uplifted and the rocks deposited above the Chinle were been eroded away. The petrified wood is much harder and resistant to weathering than the mud rocks and ash deposits of the Chinle. Instead of eroding away the wood accumulated on the ground surface as the surrounding mud rocks and ash layers were eroded away. That is why areas of the Park are covered with a litter of petrified wood trunks, branches and fragments. Today, visitors to the park can observe the petrified wood and photograph it; however, collecting petrified wood in the park is prohibited.

Petrified wood is not rare. It is found in volcanic deposits and sedimentary rocks at many of locations worldwide. It is sometimes found where volcanic activity covered plant material with ash, mudflows or pyroclastic debris. It is found where wood in sedimentary deposits was replaced by minerals precipitated from groundwater. It is especially abundant around coal seams, although many of the wood specimens in these locations are casts and molds rather than petrifications. One almost unbelievable material from Western Australia is known as "**peanut wood**" because of its ovoid markings but those markings are actually boreholes drilled by a clam!

In the United States, noteworthy locations where abundant fossilized wood can be seen include:

- Petrified Forest National Park near Holbrook, Arizona
- Petrified Palm Deposits in the Catahoula Formation of Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi
- Ginkgo Petrified Forest near Wanapum Reservoir, Washington
- The Petrified Forest near Calistoga, California
- Mississippi Petrified Forest near Flora, Mississippi
- Gilboa Fossil Forest near Gilboa, New York
- Florissant Fossil Beds near Florissant, Colorado
- Gallatin Petrified Forest near Yellowstone, Wyoming
- Escalante Petrified Forest State Park near Escalante, Utah
- Petrified Wood Park near Lemmon, South Dakota (a rock sculpture park - some made of local petrified wood)

A wide variety of names are commonly used for petrified wood. "Fossilized wood" is a general term for wood that has been petrified or preserved by other methods of fossilization. "Opalized wood" is petrified wood that has been replaced by opal, an amorphous form of silica. "Agatized wood" is wood that has been replaced by agate, a form of chalcedony or microcrystalline quartz. "Silicified wood" is wood that has been replaced by any form of silica, including opal and agate.

Petrified wood is often used in lapidary work. It is cut into shapes for making jewelry, sawn into blocks to make bookends, sawn into thick slabs to make table tops, and sawn into thin slabs for clock faces, cut into cabochons, used to make tumbled stones and many other crafts. Small pieces of petrified wood can be placed in a rock tumbler to make tumbled stones.



A nice piece of petrified wood suitable for lapidary work. The pore spaces in the wood have been completely silicified and the piece is relatively free of fractures. It also has nice color. Petrified wood like this is very hard to find. Specimen is about three inches across.

Final Thought: If minorities have the race card and women have the gender card, what do rednecks have? The Trump Card

source: <http://www.jokes4us.com/celebrityjokes/donaldtrumpjokes.html>