



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

Editor: Gordon Burkholder Format Design: Janet Burkholder

> Volume 28 Copy 4 April 2017

Regular monthly meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**

Linda Henderson	250-286-1718
Janice Boyes	250-337-8461
Kathy Young	250-285-3343
Steve Cooley	250-287-4388
Dennis Cambrey	250-337-8949
Shane Mawhinney	250-285-3465
vacant	
Pat Doyle	250-285-2377
Beba Adams	250-926-0044
vacant	
vacant	250-285-2377
Diane Cooper	250-830-0889
Gordon Burkholder	250-923-1740
Janet Burkholder	info@ripplerockgemand mineralclub.com
Beba Adams	250-926-0044
Beba Adams	250-926-0044
Jack and Jan Boyes	250-337-8461
Steve Cooley	250-287-4388
Gordon Burkholder	250-923-1740
	Janice Boyes Kathy Young Steve Cooley Dennis Cambrey Shane Mawhinney vacant Pat Doyle Beba Adams vacant Diane Cooper Gordon Burkholder Janet Burkholder Beba Adams Beba Adams Beba Adams Jack and Jan Boyes Steve Cooley

#### **Delegates to Vancouver Island Zone Meetings**

Senior	Jan Boyes
Intermediate	Melissa Ticknor
Junior	vacant

#### 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.

# **Gemboree Jottings**

I am overwhelmed by the numbers of registrations to date. Jan Boyes has been very busy keeping track of it all. As the numbers continue to climb I am considering the possibility of putting on a cap, but as of this edition we will continue to accept registrations. Of course the early bird rate is no longer in effect. I hope that those who have registered have booked their camping site at Cluxewe. If you can't get a spot please contact me as we have 4 non-serviced sites available.

# Gordon Burkholder

# **Inter Club News**

# Port Alberni Show Report

I want to thank you all for your collective contribution to our annual show which was held March 11-12. Once again the show was a success with Saturday having the heaviest attendance. By my calculations we had a weekend attendance of approx. 1200 including 867 paid adults. Many people appeared to be in a buying mood and the children smashed over 300 "treasure rocks" painstakingly prepared by Les Bontron and Barb Marcellus. Our front entrance crew received many compliments from folks leaving the show and the many smiles on the children's faces were a delight to see.

A special thank you to our long time Treasurer Dot West who despite battling a serious illness prepared some 1,000 entrance/ticket packages for this event! Thanks also to our demonstrators: Karl Maldaner for the faceting demo; Russ and Lori Ball for their fossil information and demo display and our President Les Bontron for his grinding/polishing/finishing works. Thanks also to Ken Porteous who once again provided interesting audio-visual presentations most every hour in our back room. Of course the show would not be the success it was without the good food prepared Page | 3

by Cheryl and Brenda Priest including the canteen, Saturday banquet and the free Sunday morning breakfast.

Like many clubs ours is suffering from dwindling membership due to failing health and the challenges of an aging population. A big thanks to John and Shelley Penner, loyal vendors, who despite not being club members helped considerably in the Friday set-up and Sunday cleanup. Extra help such as this including set-up help from vendor Casey Vanschie plus the four senior high school students who primarily assisted with the children's activities in our back room were a welcome complement to our club members efforts.

This year saw a change to our show layout with the decision to accommodate five additional vendor table opportunities in our middle room by relocating our display cases to the foyer between the 2nd and 3rd rooms. Despite the rather poor lighting in the middle room I hope this was overall a success as it both allowed new opportunities for some "wait list Vendors" as well as potential improved exposure for their merchandise to the show patrons. The configuring of the tables along the back wall, however, will need some work and I will be seeking the recommendations of the two vendors in order to improve table placement for our 2018 show.

Thanks again for your assistance and participation. Our show next year will be held March 10-11, 2018 - always the weekend which includes the 2nd Sunday in March.

# Courtenay Gem & Mineral Club &

# Parksville Rock Club Annual Show and Sale

April 8 & 9, 2017

Saturday 9:30am - 5:00pm

Sunday 9:30am - 4:00pm

Royal Canadian Legion Courtenay Branch

367 Cliffe Avenue, Courtenay, BC

Silent Auction, food, children's corner, slab table, showcases, demonstrators and lots of vendors.

Admission \$3 and children under 10 free.

Page | 4

Contact: Lori and Russ Ball, 250-703-3444 or E mail

# Web Coordinator Comments

We have had 4 emails this past week from rock club members from other BC clubs. They are all looking for information on rock collecting sites or looking to advertise items for sale.

Our website bill was overdue but it has been paid so we can continue to host the web site. Thanks, Dennis.

Many of our members may not realise how often people visit the site and get in contact with us asking for info. It is an important public face for our club.

Just a reminder that this will be my last year as web master and I hope someone steps forward soon to take on this important task.

### Janet Burkholder

#### **Membership Memos**

We have added 27 members to our roster this month. Most are retuning but some are new to us. Hopefully they will attend this next meeting so as to get to know the other members of the club. Here is the list.

Billings, Liz & Luoma, Bill. Bowerman, Deana & Ron. Constantinescu, Dan

Demidoff, Sandra. Falconer, Jack. Gavigan, Linda & Ed. Glaspy, Julie.

Harris, Derek. Hink, Antje & Marggraf, Jurgen. Kellerhals, Heather. MacNab, Mary. Mawhinney, Shane & Robin. Palmblad, Ken & Toni

Pelletier, Joyce. Ritcey, Ed. Sunday, Doug & Aiden. Thompson, Faye & Richard. Williams, Michael & Ulla

### **Dennis Cambrey**

### **Editor's Edicts**

This will be the last edition that I write on the road and as I say this I am in a laundromat in Lake Havasu, AZ. There is good internet and my emails are coming in fast. I can get busy and have most of the edition done. It should be sent out on time to all. I am looking forward to seeing all of you upon my return.

# Gordon Burkholder

#### NORTH ISLAND COMMUNITIES: Port Hardy

With an eye to our Gemboree in July I thought it might be a good idea to let folks know about the communities that we will be near in case you want to continue your explorations and travels in the region. I'll put one in each of the next 3 "Bugles". All information comes from the <u>www.northislandcommunities</u> site.

### Port Hardy – Vancouver Island, BC, Canada

Port Hardy is the largest community on Vancouver Island North. It is the northernmost point of the Island Highway (aka Hwy 19), site of the regional airport and the starting point for the BC Ferries Inside Passage route to Prince Rupert, an epic ocean journey along the Discovery Coast Passage to the mid and north coast and the Queen Charlotte Islands / Haida Gwaii.

Ripe with opportunities for outdoor adventure, this is a town that offers it all: kayaking, marine activities, First Nations culture in nearby Fort Rupert, numerous west coast artists and phenomenal, abundant wildlife. Black bears are a common sight along the highway as they feast on sweet grass in the summer months. In spring, summer and fall, grizzly bear viewing tours depart by floatplane from Port Hardy to mainland regions of the Great Bear Rainforest. That's also the extended season for whale-watching outings to Johnstone Strait.

# Area Highlights

Hikers utilize a land shuttle service that leaves Port Hardy for the trailhead of Cape Scott Provincial Park. From there, the acclaimed multi-day North Coast Trail is within striking distance or, at the other end, a water taxi service drops off backpackers at the trail's Shushartie Bay trailhead. The region has long been a paradise for boaters and Port Hardy offers marinas, moorage, safe harbours and repair facilities. Anglers set out on charter fishing boats from the marina in Hardy Bay in pursuit of prize salmon and halibut or cast for their catch from the edge of the Quatse River. Port Hardy is also a renowned headquarters for scuba-diving – no surprise given that Jacques Cousteau and other experts have famously stated these waters deliver some of the finest cold-water diving in the world. Rent equipment or book a dive charter in Port Hardy to explore one of the very best this area has to offer including Browning Wall, Hunt Rock, Five Fathom Rock and God's Pocket Provincial Park. Surf lessons and rentals are also available to visitors looking to ride the waves at secluded, Vancouver Island North beaches like Raft Cove, Grant Bay and San Josef Bay.

# **Recreation and Leisure**

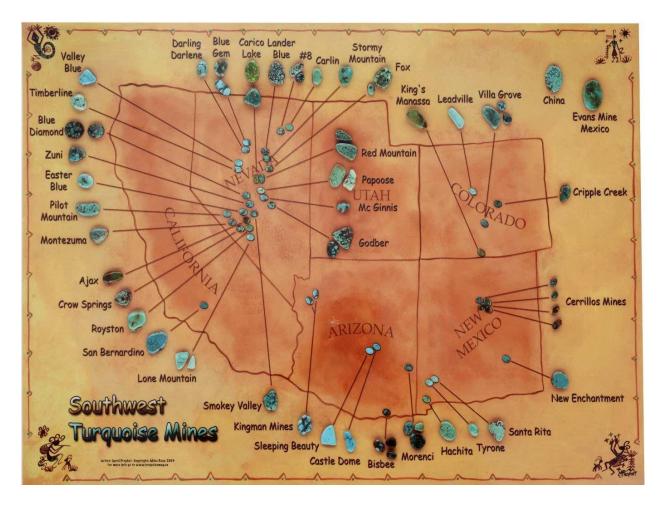
Closer to town, play the Island's northernmost golf course, rev up your motor at the stock car races, picnic at nearby Storey's Beach or spot bald eagles feasting on salmon along the riverside Quatse Loop Trail. Shop for art, books and local crafts on Market Street. Check out colourful murals painted on downtown buildings. Snap pictures of the chainsaw art at Carrot Park. And be sure to drop into the Port Hardy Museum & Archives, which houses 8,000 year-old native artefacts and a recreation of a Danish settler's cottage.

# **Quatse River Salmon Stewardship Center**

Another must visit: The brand new interpretive gallery at the Quatse River Salmon Stewardship Centre (open mid-May to the end of September). Experience fun-filled habitat displays and educational tours within steps of a salmon spawning river and hatchery. At Fort Rupert, the site of a former Hudson's Bay Company fort, see carvers at work in a First Nations gallery. The staff at the Visitor Centre, open year-round in the heart of town, are happy to assist visitors with more information on local attractions and activities. Make your choice from a diverse slate of accommodations ranging from hotels to B&Bs to campgrounds that are a short walk from downtown.

#### TURQUOISE

Being as I am in a great turquoise region I thought I'd revisit this wonderful stone. Mining for turquoise is an arduous task and the price of the stone bears that out as does its rarity. I have not seen much good colored solid turquoise around but the softer powder blue stones are seemingly everywhere in the area.



As you can see from this map of turquoise mine site locations turquoise is available in all of the southwestern states of the US of A. The individual types of turquoise differ from mine to mine and from state to state.

# **Dry Creek Turquoise**

It is most famously called the Godber/Burnham Turquoise mine. When Sacred Buffalo turquoise was first discovered in the Dry Creek Mine on the Shoshone Indian Reservation near Battle Mountain, Nevada in 1993, the miners, Bruce and Jeri Woods, weren't actually sure what it was.

### **Boulder Turquoise**

Boulder Turquoise or Ribbon Turquoise is simply when a stone cutter takes natural Vein Turquoise (Turquoise in its natural host rock) and cuts in the direction to create the vein going through the rock like a ribbon or splotches of turquoise in the host rock like a Boulder Opal. Page | 8



### White Buffalo Turquoise

The dyed howlite (or magnesite) is marketed as turquenite. Howlite is also sold in its natural state, sometimes under the misleading trade names of "white turquoise" or "white buffalo turquoise," or the derived name "white buffalo stone."



# Morenci Turquoise

Morenci turquoise was mined in Greenlee County in southeastern Arizona. Morenci is highly prized for its beautiful blue colors, which vary from a light to a very dark blue. Also for its unusual matrix of iron pyrite or "fool's gold" that when polished often resembles silver.

Page | 9



### **Sleeping Beauty Turquoise**

Sleeping beauty turquoise can be found in the southwestern part of the United States in Arizona. The highly sought after stone has made a tremendous impact on the history of turquoise over the years. The stone got its name because the mountain where it is mined resembles a sleeping woman lying on her back with arms crossed.

Sleeping Beauty Turquoise is revered and highly sought after due to its pure sky blue color which shows very little to no veining or webbing. It is still being collected from the Sleeping Beauty Mine in Globe, Arizona where a small operation of workers mines, processes and ships the stones.

The famous Sleeping Beauty Turquoise was actually discovered by accident. The mine was opened to pull copper and gold and it wasn't until relatively recently that the first turquoise stones were discovered. Even in rough form, the stones are vibrant and bright, even bluer than the bright Southwestern sky overhead.

It is one of the most prized forms of turquoise for jewelry and adornment and is often stable enough to be polished and used for turquoise jewelry without any treatment or stabilization. Its pure color and natural strength make Sleeping Beauty Turquoise characteristics a favorite for jewelry makers and artists around the world.

Today, retailers, wholesalers and the public visit the mine to get their hands on the beautiful stone, and if turquoise history is any indication, Sleeping Beauty Turquoise won't be around forever. The current turquoise mining in Arizona produces enough stones to meet commercial demand.

Many of the most famous Southwestern turquoise mines have depleted their supply and ceased operation. The history of turquoise is ever changing as mines open, close and new types of turquoise are discovered. To this day, however, there has never been a stone that replicates the stunning beauty of Sleeping Beauty Turquoise. It is truly a gem of the Southwestern United States.



### **Stabilized Turquoise**

Stabilize - To treat Turquoise with plastic or other substance to heighten its color and durability and increase its potential to take a polish. Stabilized Turquoise is natural turquoise to begin with, but it has been artificially enhanced.

The best stabilized stones are difficult to tell from high grade turquoise, but they are not nearly as valuable and should not be sold as natural turquoise.