BUGLE

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RIPPLE ROCK GEM & MINERAL CLUB
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Editor: Gordon Burkholder
Assistant: Janet Burkholder

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Copy 1

January 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	250-285-2377
Shop Coordinator	Beba Adams	250-926-0044
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Entertainment		
Publicity		
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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 & 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.

President

Happy New Year everyone! It's time to get out and stand in a frozen creek and try and pick up frozen rocks with blue frozen fingers! We can then go back to our cars and eat our frozen lunch. Are we having fun yet? My granddaughter and I are! We love these sunny days!

Kathy Young

Secretarial Notes

I am the 'mailman'. We still receive some snailmail, however the mailbox seldom has mail in it except for the months just prior to the show. Almost all of the Club mail is done by email, hence the importance of telling us the email address you want the Club to send your email to.

I have no special status during our meetings. Probably there is not any reason for me to sit at the 'head table', except that I need a solid flat surface to be able to write the notes I take to make the minutes from. An average typist could type the minutes directly onto a laptop. I am a 'hunt and peck' typist, therefore I use pen and paper. Should a discussion occur during a meeting that requires a motion for the Club to act on, I need to be able to name the mover and the seconder in the minutes and during the meeting I may have a 'senior's moment' when placing a name to a face, please be patient if you have to tell me your name twice! Further to the fact that I am a senior, my hearing is not very sensitive anymore!

When I go on field trips, I make a point of bringing a camera to be able to help the Bugle editor to report club trips in the next Bugle. Each club member can do the same. The more cameras on the trip the better because each of us will see different things and see them from different points of view. Most of us use digital cameras and the Bugle editor can receive the pictures via email. Developing pictures is a fast dying process.

Steve Cooley

Membership Moment

It is our first year with the new renewal date of January 1st and so I would like to place the members list here for you to see.

Adams, Beba	Hughes, Wayne & Dagmar
Akelaitis, Barbara	Kerr, Harry & Milroy, Molly
Armstrong, Jennie	Langill, Gwen
Billings, Gordon	Luterbach, Bonnie
Bowman, Bev	MacKay, Randy
Boyes, Jack & Jan	Mawhinney, Shane & Robin
Burkholder, Gordon & Janet	McBrien, Katherine
Cambrey, Dennis	Menzies, Lynn

Cooley, Steve	Mhyre, Harlow
Cooper, Diane & Stomperud, Hans	Myhre, Jamie
Demidoff, Sandra	Palmblad, Ken & Toni
Devlin, Penny	Ticknor, Mellissa & Myhre, Alvin
Doyle, Pat & McBurnie, Ron	Unger, Barbara
Falconer, Jack	Williams, Janice
Gray, Allen Hunter, Donna	Williams, Michael & Ulla
Hallstrom, Charlie & Lena	Young, Kathy
Hamilton, Lorne	Peel, Bob & Karen
Henderson, Linda	Ewing, Greg
Huber, Steve & Jeanette	

Dennis Cambrey

Entertainment Report

For the January's meeting entertainment everyone needs to bring 2 rocks in their pocket.
Label the first one on masking tape because you know what it is, and leave the second one unlabeled so you can get it identified or just test people's knowledge.
Hopefully we all go home with names for them all.

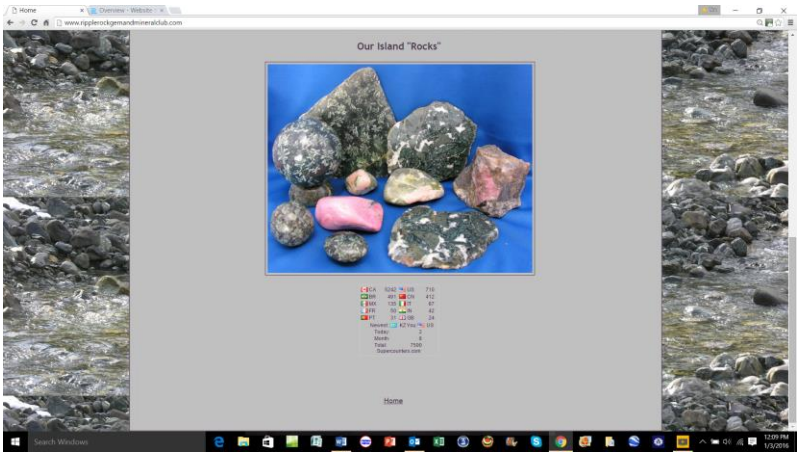
Zone Report

The next meeting of the Zone will take place at the Victoria Show in March. The BCLS executive will also be in attendance and give its report to the meeting.

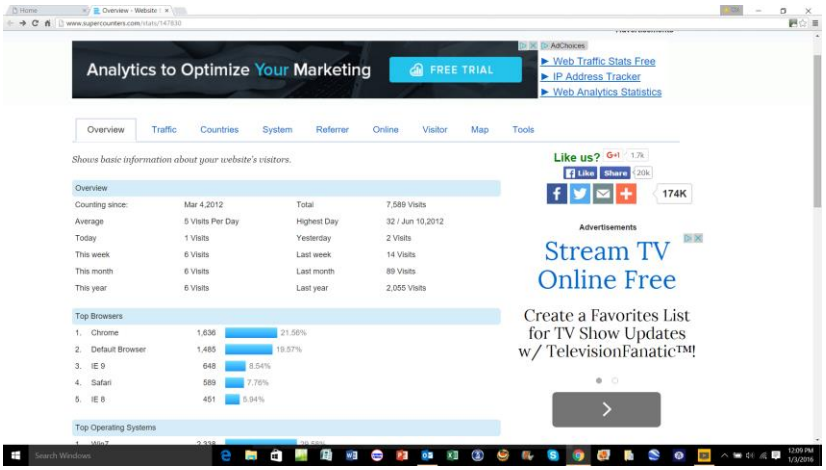
Gordon Burkholder, Senior Zone Delegate

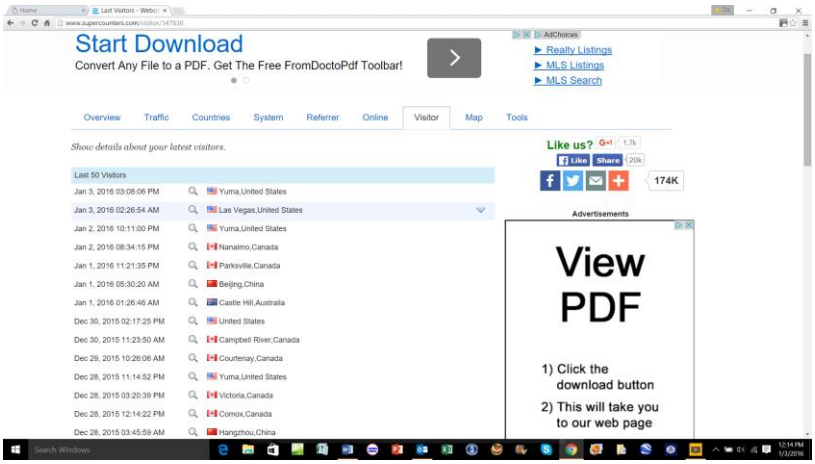
Web Site Data from the Web Master

Our website is viewed by people from all around the world. Last month I shared the letter from the classroom teacher whose class was using it as a resource in their exploration of rocks. This month I want to share with you information about other visitors to our site.
Did you know that if you double click on the Supercounters at the bottom of the home page that it will bring up information on how many visitors view our website.



Then if you click on the Visitor tab, you can see where the visitors are viewing from. Quite interesting.





Janet Burkholder

Editor's Message

Welcome to another edition of the "Bugle". I hope this one finds everyone in fine health and good spirits. Our winter has been more of a 'winter' than I'd like. We've had cold weather and over-night temperatures at or near the freezing point. I have been out on the desert a few times collecting and will be at the 'big' show in Quartzsite in a few weeks. After that I hope it warms up enough to brave the higher elevations of eastern Arizona to look for copper related rocks.

As always I look forward to receiving articles and photos from you and will make every effort to get them into the newsletter.

Best wishes for a happy 2016!

Gordon Burkholder

Quotable quote: All of us who are concerned for peace and triumph of reason and justice must be keenly aware how small an influence reason and honest good will exert upon events in the political field. *Albert Einstein*

GEM OF THE MONTH

Larimar

Larimar, also called "Stefilia's Stone", is a rare blue variety of the silicate mineral pectolite found only in the Dominican Republic, in the Caribbean. Its coloration varies from white, light-blue, green-blue to deep blue.

The Dominican Republic's Ministry of Mining records show that on 23 November 1916, Father Miguel Domingo Fuertes Loren of the Barahona Parish requested permission to explore and exploit the mine of a certain blue rock he had discovered. Pectolites were not yet known in the Dominican Republic, and the request was rejected.

Rough Larimar

In 1974, at the foot of the Bahoruco Range, the coastal province of Barahona, Miguel Méndez and Peace Corps volunteer Norman Rilling rediscovered Larimar on a beach. Natives, who believed the stone came from the sea, called the gem *Blue Stone*. Miguel took his young daughter's name Larissa and the Spanish word for sea (*mar*) and formed *Larimar*, by the colors of the water of the Caribbean Sea, where it was found. The few stones they found were alluvial sediment, washed into the sea by the Bahoruco

River. An upstream search revealed the in situ outcrops in the range and soon the Los Chupaderos mine was formed.

Larimar is a type of pectolite, or a rock composed largely of pectolite, an acid silicate hydrate of calcium and sodium. Although pectolite is found in many locations, none have the unique volcanic blue coloration of Larimar. This blue color, distinct from that of other pectolites, is the result of cobalt substitution for calcium.

Miocene volcanic rocks, andesites and basalts, erupted within the limestones of the south coast of the island. These rocks contained cavities or vugs which were later filled with a variety of minerals including the blue pectolite. These pectolite cavity fillings are a secondary occurrence within the volcanic flows, dikes and plugs. When these rocks erode the pectolite fillings are carried downslope to end up in the alluvium and the beach gravels. The Bahoruco River carried the pectolite bearing sediments to the sea. The tumbling action along the streambed provided the natural polishing to the blue Larimar which makes them stand out in contrast to the dark gravels of the streambed.

Los Chupaderos

The most important outcrop of blue pectolite is located at Los Chupaderos, in the section of Los Checheses, about 10 kilometers southwest of the city of Barahona, in the south-western region of the Dominican Republic. It is a single mountainside now perforated with approximately 2,000 vertical shafts, surrounded by rainforest vegetation and deposits of blue-colored mine tailings.

Pendant of Larimar with emerald

Larimar jewelry is offered to the public in the Dominican Republic, and elsewhere in the Caribbean as a local specialty. Most jewelry produced is set in silver, but sometimes high-grade Larimar is also set in gold. It also has become available elsewhere. Some Far East manufacturers have started to use it in their production and buy large quantities of raw stones as long as this is still permitted.

Quality grading is according to coloration and the typical mineral crystal configuration in the stone. Larimar also comes in green and even with red spots, brown strikes, etc., due to the presence of other minerals and/or oxidation. But the more intense the blue color and the contrast in the stone, the higher and rarer is the quality. The blue color is photosensitive and fades with time if exposed to too much light and heat.

Source: Wikkipedia

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

WHAT'S THAT ROCK?

Striped flint

From Wikipedia

Striped flint

A ball of striped flint

Striped flint, sometimes called **banded flint** or **Polish Flint** is a version of flint with more or less regular system of concentric dark and pale stripes, resembling rolling waters.

A large striped flint deposit is located in Lesser Poland, near the cities of Sandomierz, Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski and Iłża. Because of its rarity and unique look, local striped flint is in use today in jewellery and has become a regional export product.

Striped flint was mined by Neolithic people near Krzemionki Opatowskie village around 4,000 BC, and it was used in manufacturing of axes.

Upper Jurassic (Oxfordian) striped flint from Lesser Poland consists mainly of quartz. Morphology of grains indicates that the quartz is not a product of opal and chalcedony

conversion, but precipitated directly from the seawater. The crystallinity is higher in the center of a concretion. Sometimes chalcedony is present, being a product of recrystallization of opal. Other minerals can be found in small quantities: clay, iron oxides and hydroxides, calcite, feldspar, mica, glauconite, zircon, tourmaline and rutile. Different colouring of individual bands is linked to an increased and decreased number and size of pores that brought about different light reflection. Fewer and smaller pores reflect less light.

Final Thought: