BUGLE

Published by
RIPPLE ROCK GEM & MINERAL CLUB
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Editor: Steve Cooley

January 2025

Regular monthly meeting
2nd Friday each month at 6:30 pm
(except July & August)
Craft Room, Campbell River Community Hall
401-11th Ave
Campbell River, BC

RIPPLE ROCK GEM & MINERAL CLUB

RIPPLE ROCK EXECUTIVE 2024

President	Ken Bueckert	250-287-6634
Vice-President	Dagmar Hughes	250-203-6339
Past President	Molly Milroy	250-203-2447
Secretary		
Treasurer	Dennis Cambrey	250-337-8949
Wagonmaster	Katherine Jorgensen	250-203-3440
Show Chair		
Shop Coordinators	Ian Shepherd John Fisher	778-269-2655 250-338-4573
Entertainment		
Publicity	Website – Nick Lyon	250-857-4124
Bugle Editor	Steve Cooley	250-287-4388

WORKSHOP

Shop located at 247 Dahl Rd.

For general shop information contact
Ian Shepherd 778-269-2655
Maggie Bradshaw 604-789-7847

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 the address on the Bugle cover.

Programs:

The Club meets at 6:30pm on the 2nd Friday of each month (except July and August), in the craft room at the Campbell River Community Centre, 401-11th Ave downtown Campbell River. Guests are always welcome! After each meeting, we have entertainment related to some facet of the lapidary hobby.

Workshop:
The Club has an equipped workshop for lapidary work. New members must take a training course to learn lapidary arts and equipment before regular access to the shop is allowed. There is a minimal charge for the use of the equipment.

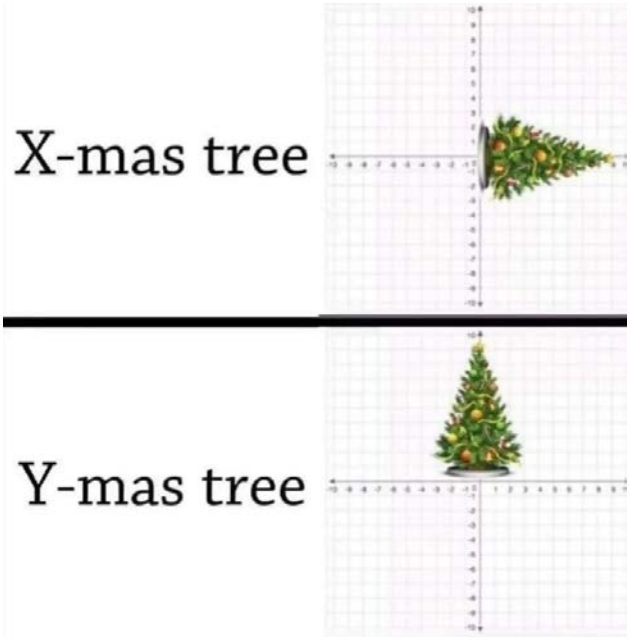
Field Trips:
The Wagonmaster organizes several family friendly field trips and camps throughout the year.

Newsletter (Bugle):

The Bugle is the Club newsletter. Its purpose is to inform members about monthly meeting, field trips, camps, activities, and almost anything related to RockHounding and Lapidary skills and equipment.

Code of Conduct (British Columbia Lapidary Society):

I will respect private property and do no Rockhounding without the owner's permission.
I will use no firearms or blasting material in Rockhounding areas.
I will take garbage home or deposit in a proper receptacle.
I will leave gates as found.
I will do no willful damage to materials or take more than I can reasonably use.
I will fill excavations which may be dangerous to other people or livestock.
I will build fires in designated places only, and make sure they are completely extinguished before leaving.
I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
I will not tamper with signs, structural facilities or equipment.
I will obey all laws and regulations of forestry and game departments in the area in which I am Rockhounding.
I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources and wildlife.
I will always use good outdoor manners.
I will show respect to other club members.



About 30 members came to our annual Christmas potluck and rock exchange on December 13th. The club bought the beasts for Ian and Wayne/Dagmar to prepare. An assortment of vegetables and deserts were brought by those attending. Nobody had to go home hungry.

The turkey roaster serving pieces of the beast.

What was left over of the main meal.

Even the desert table had left overs.

Santa Claus left these. He forgot the name tags!

Some have their meal, some are at the serving table.

Ooing and awing over the exchanged gift.

This gift required some assembling

<u>January's club meeting had two speakers.</u>

Bonnie Delaurier. She outlined her history as a vendor at rock shows over the last 10 or so years. She buys most of her rocks at shows or on line. Shapes and polishes the rocks herself.

Michelle Rentz. She inherited her grandfather's collection. He lived in Royston and had rock shop there. She is passing on all the specimens that people will buy from her.

<u>From our Wagonmaster, Katherine Jorgensen</u>

Mark your calendars for the weekend of Mar. 21 to 23rd 2025. We will gather in Hope, B.C. Saturday. morning at 10 a.m. for breakfast (TBA) where we will discuss the day's "seek and find" exciting rocks close to Hope.

The 1st stop will be at the Yale bar (drive approximately 15 kms towards Cache Creek) to the little town of Yale and turn on north (right) side of bridge. Drive approx 300 yards where you will find lots of rocks by the trail.

After lunch, we'll head to Emery Creek for more discoveries.

On Sun. morning we'll drive close to Hell's Gate to Alexander Bar at 10 a.m. where we'll hopefully find more treasures.

The weather can be unpredictable so bring warm clothes and dress in layers. We'll be walking into water sometimes, so rubber boots are advised. A walking stick may be useful. Bring a crowbar, a backpack for your finds and a little hammer and most importantly, a squirt bottle for rinsing the rocks.

Accommodation will be at the Heritage Motel in Hope (570 Old Princeton Highway) where we can get a discount with sufficient numbers. (approx. cost per night $100)

There is a Save On Foods closely. Remember to pack a good lunch both days. There are various restaurants close by the motel.

From our President, Ken Bueckert

Announce #1:

Re/ RRGRC February Club Meeting Friday, Feb. 14

I have exciting news!
Our February Club Meeting will not be at the Community Center…**but will be an event at the CR Museum**.
There is a new exhibit https://www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/visit/exhibitions/dinosaurs-bc

We have a special guest attending…
Duncan Johannessen
Senior Laboratory Instructor
School of Earth and Ocean Sciences
University of Victoria

Friday, Feb. 14th 6-8pm a private reception for our Club only…members, families (kids too). Interaction with our special guest, and access to the museum exhibit

Saturday, Feb. 15th 10am-5pm open to the public

Duncan Johannessen:
"We do a field school that goes up the island and the focus of that is how VI was built so it is mostly about Wrangellia, what it is made of and how it formed. I would use that as a basis, but where possible have examples of the rock types I am

discussing/showing and how they formed. In the long run I would open it up so that ***people can bring rocks they want to know more about*** *and we can try to figure out what group they belong to and what exactly they are and how they formed.*
So I would say it is mostly #1 – geology of VI, but also formation and some petrology with a bit of mineral info in there too. If you need a title, I would say ***The Formation of Vancouver Island: its geologic history and common rock types.***
We can throw in some talk of fossils too especially in the Q&A afterwards, but again I am less of an expert on that."

Announcement #2:

RRGRC Executive Meeting Feb. 7th

a.) There will be opening discussion about the Club's Rock Shop.
We will be reviewing costs and policies.

b.) We will be using this meeting as a 'Committee Meeting' for the Club's Rock and Gem Show (June 2025)

If you have any comments/concerns about either that you would like to raise…contact me in advance.

From the Bugle editor, Steve Cooley

I have had a green rock sitting on my bench for many moons. Recently, I decided to try to identify it.

Step one – where did I find it. Failed. Never wrote anything down and do not know if I bought it, found it, stole it or was given it.
Step two – how hard is it? Less than 6, can scratch it with a pocket knife.
Step three – streak colour, green. (The hard part is finding a piece of unglazed porcelain in the house!)
Step four – what is its density or specific gravity (in metric measure these two are the same). I weighed it then I measured its volume. Density = weight / volume. 3.78 grams/cc. Average for rocks is 2.65. (I asked Dr. Google.)
Step five – crystal shape, structure. It has tiny crystal faces visible, barely. Too tiny for me to see their shape with a hand lens.

The shiny spots are crystal faces.

The lines on the cut face are knife scratches.

Magnetic – no. Probably no iron, cobalt or nickel in it.
Acid reaction – yes. Could be a carbonate (related to limestone).

I found a good website for identifying rocks with lots of examples. It uses hyperlinks to send you the pictures. Good when you have access to the Web. Not useful outside of cel coverage.

I could identify it using its yes/no system. Likely, it is marble.

www.minsocam.org/msa/collectors_corner/id/mineral_id_keyi1.html#toc

You will eventually find this site with a search for identifying rocks. You don't have to type the complete address listed.

Key properties listed on the site's table of contents.

- Luster
  - Hardness
  - Streak
  - Cleavage
  - Parting
  - Fusibility
  - Specific Gravity
  - Habit
  - Tenacity
  - Color
  - Luminescence
  - Radioactivity
  - Magnetism
  - Acid Reaction

A Simple Identification Kit

In order to use this identification key you will need to assemble an "Identification Kit". Here's what you'll need:

- A piece of plain white paper (a blank specimen label works great.)
- Your fingernails (preferable still attached to your fingers!)
- A copper penny (pre-1983; or small – ½ inch – piece of copper; or short piece of heavy copper wire.)
- A small piece of fluorite (a broken cleavage piece is fine.)
- A pocket knife (NOT a Swiss Army knife – the steel in those is harder than in most cheap pocket knives, which can throw hardness tests off.)
- A small section of a steel file (a 2 or 3 inch tip from a triangular file for sharpening chain saws works fine.)
- A piece of a quartz crystal (with at least one good face and a sharp point - a broken section usually has a sharp point on it somewhere, it doesn't have to be a crystal termination.)
- A small piece of a beryl or topaz crystal (with at least one good face and a sharp point or edge.)
- A small piece of a corundum crystal (with at least one good face and sharp point or edge.)
- A "streak plate" (unglazed porcelain tile – a 2 inch square is plenty.)
- A short candle stub and matches or a cigarette lighter.
- A small pair of tweezers.
- A needle in a wooden dowel (for generating cleavage, etc.)
- A small magnet (a refrigerator magnet is fine, but it should be a fairly strong one.)
- A plastic dropper bottle for dilute (10%) HCl acid solution (Please read, understand and follow the label warnings and Material Safety Data Sheets when working with any hazardous material).
- A 10x hand lens/jeweler's loupe.
- Blank specimen labels.
- Pens or pencils.

Most of these items are for testing hardness, and there are more listed than the key itself requires. But when you get to the sections and have specific minerals in mind, the extra hardness tools will help you in determining whether or not your unknown has the specific hardness of one of the minerals listed. A hardness table is provide below showing the relative hardness of the items listed. The streak plate is used for obtaining a colored (or not) powder streak of the mineral. Many minerals give a different powder streak color than the mineral itself. (Such as black hematite giving its characteristic "rust red" streak.) The candle stub or lighter is used for doing basic fusibility tests – will

a chip fuse in the flame? The tweezers keep your fingers from getting burned doing the fusibility test! A magnet is used for testing whether or not a sample is magnetic. A loupe is often necessary for examining broken mineral surfaces to check the cleavage. And figuring out what mineral you have would be a waste of time if you don't label the sample – and forget what it is by the time you get around to looking at it again.