



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

Editor: Steve Cooley

October 2018 Regular monthly meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday each month at 7:30 pm (except July & August) Craft Room, Campbell River Community Hall 401-11th Ave Campbell River, BC



## **RIPPLE ROCK GEM & MINERAL CLUB**

President	Linda Henderson	250-286-1718
Vice-President		
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	Linda Henderson	250 286-1718
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Shop Coordinator	Molly Milroy	250-830-7643
Entertainment		
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Bugle Editor	Dennis Cambrey	250-337-8949
<b>Non-Executive Positions</b>		
Showcases		
Slab Draw/Collection		
Coffee Break		
Webmaster		

#### **RIPPLE ROCK EXECUTIVE 2018**

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

Senior	Jan Boyes
Intermediate	Melissa Ticknor
Junior	Sunday Cousins

#### WORKSHOP

Shop located at 246 Dahl Rd. (the better address is 247 Dahl Rd.)

For general shop info contact Molly Milroy 250-830-7643

Workshop hours are posted on the 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 the address on the Bugle cover. Four people took a trip to the Argonaut. We found magnetite, very low grade garnet and limestone or marble. There are several levels that can be driven to by most vehicles. To explore all parts takes several hours, more than we wanted to stay.



This must be ....



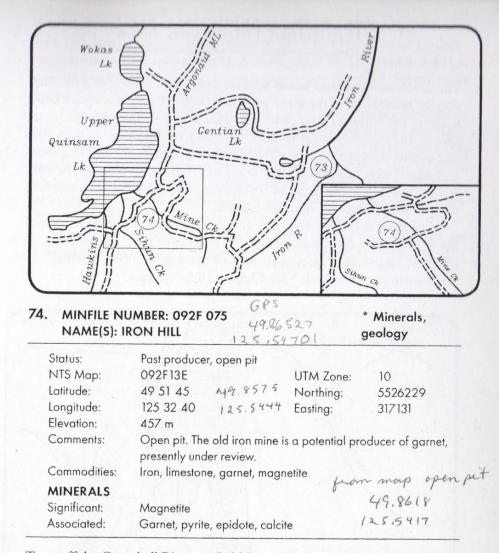
Dump face





'Glory' hole

Benches above the hole



Turn off the Campbell River — Gold River Highway #28 2 km W of Echo Lake (20 km from Campbell River) onto the Argonaut Mainline. Mine is 16 km from turn-off, on S side of Upper Quinsam Lake, on Mine Creek.

The Argonaut mine is a massive magnetite-magnetite/garnetite skarn situated on Iron Hill, just E of upper Quinsam Lake. Skarn mineralization occurs along the contact between limestone and pillowed basalts and consists of massive garnetite and magnetite with minor amounts of epidote, calcite, and pyrite.

Between 1951 and 1957, over 3.5 million tonnes of ore were mined, from which 2 million tonnes of concentrate was shipped. The tailings and waste pile contain fine-grained magnetite and garnet.

About 1 km W of Iron Hill, massive magnetites in greenish volcanics show on Sihun Creek, with associated chalcopyrite and pyrite, interlaced by quartz and calcite veins. There are reports of cobalt showings close to Upper Quinsam Lake, between Sihun and Mine Creeks. Shop schedule for October

Thursdays from 12 to 3 Oct 4 Doug Screeton Oct 11 Doug Oct 18 Beba Oct 25 Doug

Fridays from 11 to 2 Oct 5. Harry Oct 12 Bonnie Oct 19 Linda Oct 26 Bonnie

If there is enough interest, it could be opened an evening and/or during the weekend.



Old pictures of our shop. How many changes can you spot?!

### 5.1 HARDNESS

Mohs' scale of hardness is named after the German mineralogist Friedrich Mohs (1773-1839) who devised a simple standard of comparison, ranging from 1 (soft) to 10 (hard) that determines relative "scratchability." Anything having, for example, a hardness of 6, will scratch anything having a lower number of 5 through 1. Minerals having typical hardnesses are:

- 1 talc
- 2 gypsum
- 3 calcite
- 4 fluorite
- 5 apatite
- 6 orthoclase
- 7 quartz
- 8 topaz
- 9 corundum (ruby, sapphire)
- 10 diamond

The easiest way to remember the sequence is "*The girls can flirt and* other queer things can do." Gypsum is harder than talc, but not twice as hard. Fluorite is harder than calcite, but is less hard than apatite. If a material scratches everything up to fluorite, but not apatite, then it has a hardness between 4 and 5. For field work, you can buy hardness pencils that come equipped with known stones, or you can make your own. Other useful hardness tools are:

- 2.5 fingernail
- 4 penny, common nail
- 5.5 window glass, penknife blade
- 6.5 metal file
- 7 quartz crystal

Remember not to scratch a prize specimen in a visible place! When examining a scratch, make sure you are looking at the scratch, and not some loose powder that has been scraped off. Wash the specimen and see that the scratch scores the real rock.

# Copied from A Field Guide to Gold, Gemstone & Mineral Sites of British Columbia, volume 1 Vancouver Island