BUGLE

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

Editor: Gordon Burkholder

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October 2017

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	Linda Henderson	250-286-1718
Vice-President	Janice Boyes	250-337-8461
Past President	Kathy Young	250-285-3343
Secretary	Steve Cooley	250-287-4388
Treasurer	Dennis Cambrey	250-337-8949
Wagonmaster	Shane Mawhinney	250-285-3465
Assistant Wagonmaster(s)	***vacant***	
Show Chair	Pat Doyle	250-285-2377
Shop Coordinator	Beba Adams	250-926-0044
Shop Maintenance	***vacant***	
Entertainment	***vacant***	250-285-2377
Publicity	Diane Cooper	250-830-0889
Bugle Editor	Gordon Burkholder	250-923-1740
Non-Executive Positions		
Webpage Manager	Janet Burkholder	info@ripplerockgemandmineralclub.com
Showcase	Beba Adams	250-926-0044
Slab Draw/Collection	Beba Adams	250-926-0044
Coffee Break	Jack and Jan Boyes	250-337-8461
Basic Lapidary Instructors	Steve Cooley Gordon Burkholder	250-287-4388 250-923-1740

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.

Election nominations

Our annual elections will be held at the November meeting. All offices are open for nominations and the Club needs you to step up and take charge in the operations and decision making for our group.
Some existing executive members are willing to let their names stand again this year. These dedicated folk are:
Linda Henderson
Steve Cooley
Beba Adams, and,
Shane Mawhinney
I will try to get in touch with all members to seek their involvement during the next few weeks but don't wait. Volunteer now.

Gordon Burkholder

Web Coordinator Required

The important task of managing the web site is available to someone in our group as I am not going to continue doing the task after this year ends. Please let one of the executive know if you are willing to take this on.

I will continue to put up information about club happenings and events as well as information on items for sale. We get a lot of requests from 'vendors' offering things for sale so I hope you are checking the website on a regular basis but please be warned that, "the 'Club' takes no responsibility for any transactions made between you and anyone selling or buying."

Janet Burkholder

Editor's Notations

We receive a lot of contact from the general population. It always amazes me to think of how many people in our community have a connection to rocks, lapidary and collecting. We have been the recipient of many generous donations from a lot of them. We have also offered our 'expertise' in helping them conduct sales and even auctions. It is always a lot of work but truly a great deal of enjoyment is gotten from meeting new folks and helping them out.

In the recent past we have met Brad and his wife Lynn and helped them advertise a sale of their extensive collection of rock. They donated several tubs of tumbling material to us and provided slab sale items at the last meeting. Thanks! Your generosity is appreciated.

Yesterday, Shaun dropped off a dozen or so boxes of rock he cannot take with him on his move over to the mainland. We will be using these rocks in the club and for many activities. He gave me a lot of information on the location of these finds and we talked rocks for a long while. I learned that he uses oxalic acid to clean his crystal samples and it works very well. [Oxalic acid is found in “oxy-clean” products and is available at the grocery store.]

It is great to be involved with the community and I will miss that when I finish working on the “Bugle”

Gordon Burkholder

What do YOU think?

I want to get your thoughts on some topics of interest to Rock Hounds and Ripple Rock members. You can email your opinions to gdburk1953@gmail.com

No one thought to email their opinions after the last issue so I have nothing to share this week.

QUESTION:
Should the RRG&M Club subsidize a bus trip to the Agassiz show coming up?
OPINION
I think we should do more for our members aside from providing a few folks with a shop to work in. I’d love to see us rent a bus and have members buy in to the ride at a subsidized rate to attend a show on the Mainland. Sign me up!

Wire Necklace

This article appears in full in the September 2016 issue of the Rock and Gem magazine.

This is a very simple but effective project that most anyone can accomplish with a limited budget and a few supplies.
Get some 18 gauge aluminum wire
Tape measurer
A pair of cutting pliers a pair of bending pliers
Fine file
Beads

I used rough sunstones and tumbles obsidian for my beads and so I had to drill in the holes. I used a Dremel like machine with 1mm diamond drill bits

Start by cutting a 40cm length of wire. Be careful not to put any crimps in it while handling.

File off the rough ends.

String your beads.

Bend one end of the wire to form a u-shaped hook.

Bend the other end 90 degrees to that in another u-shaped hook


measure and cut


file rough edges


string beads


form u-hooks


Finished project

CARVING BOWLS

I have seen bowls carved into stone before but I had never tried to create one myself until this past week. Here's my write up on this interesting project.
I often find myself with beautiful stones that aren't really lapidary quality and I have wondered how I might use them. Making a bowl is one answer.

Find the rock

I have chosen several species of rock; a piece of conglomerate, and a piece of jasper as my beginning stones. Each of the rocks has the potential for taking a good finish and each is a solid stone with no visible fractures or flaws. They are also attractive in their own way.

Jasper

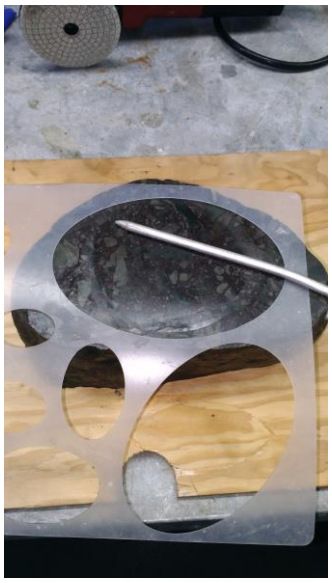
Conglomerate

Cut the rock to size

I slabbed each rock flat on one side and cut each to a desirable thickness. As well I trimmed the sides to create a basic shape for the bowls.

Score them

I used a scribe to mark the outline of each bowl. I scribed a circle and then drew lines in a pie wedge design to guide my initial cuts with the angle grinder.




Using a template and aluminum scribe

Cut the bowl

I use a 4.5” angle grinder fitted with a diamond cutting blade. This blade can cut wet or dry. I add a bit of water while cutting but it is not really necessary and caution must be taken that the grinder doesn’t short out. Also because this is a very dusty task use an approved breathing apparatus and goggles.

Goggles and breathing apparatus

Angle grinder and diamond cutting blade

Chisel out the pieces

Using a hammer and cold chisel I take out the wedges created. Be careful of flying bits and remember to wear safety glasses and gloves.

Angles cut

Hammer and chisel out the cut pieces

Shape the Bowl

I use the angle grinder again with the same diamond blade to refine the shape of the bowl and to hollow it out. Angle grinders create a lot of torque so make sure you are always in control of the machine. Use 2 hands!

Using the angle grinder to cut out bowl shape

Grind the bowl

I use a wet grinder to grind out the scratches left by the cutting process. I start with a course gritted pad increase the fineness of the grits as I progress until the desired polish is achieved.

Wet grinder with various grit pads and rubber gloves

This is a very wet process and I use rubber gloves and a full set of rain gear to keep me as dry and safe as possible. The rubber gloves also add a safety factor from shock while using the wet grinder and even though it is fitted with a GFI breaker I have felt some ’zings’ while using it without gloves. I am also doing this outdoors so that the large quantity of water has a place to drain. When I move indoors I will need to use a tub with a drain hose attached to drain off the water.

It can take several hours of grinding to get the bowl to the stage you want working up from a course grit to the finer grit pads. I start at 30 and work up to 100 200 and then 400. These pads are hook and loop and are easily changed with this system. I’ll finish off the project with the polishing pad.

Gordon Burkholder

SUNSTONES

Sunstone
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Sunstone is plagioclase feldspar, which when viewed from certain directions exhibits a spangled appearance. It has been found in Southern Norway, Sweden and in various United States localities.

Unpolished sunstone
The optical effect appears to be due to reflections from inclusions of red copper, in the form of minute scales, which are hexagonal, rhombic, or irregular in shape, and are disposed parallel to the principal cleavage-plane. These inclusions give the stone an appearance something like that of aventurine, hence sunstone is known also as "aventurine-feldspar". The optical effect called schiller and the color in Oregon Sunstone is due to copper. The middle part of this crystal sparkles, and usually the color is darkest in the middle and becomes lighter toward the outer edges.

The feldspar which usually displays the aventurine appearance is oligoclase, though the effect is sometimes seen in orthoclase: hence two kinds of sunstone are distinguished as "oligoclase sunstone" and "orthoclase sunstone".

Oregon sunstone
A variety known as Oregon sunstone is found in Harney County, Oregon and in eastern Lake County north of Plush. Oregon sunstone contains inclusions of copper crystals. Oregon sunstones can be up to three inches wide. The copper leads to variant color within some stones, where turning one stone will result in manifold hues: the more copper within the stone, the darker the complexion.

On August 4, 1987, the Oregon State Legislature designated Oregon sunstone as its state gemstone by joint resolution.

A sunstone from south-central Oregon