



## BUGLE



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

Editor: Gordon Burkholder  
Assistant: Janet Burkholder

Volume 27  
Copy 2

February 2016

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

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	
Shop Coordinator	Beba Adams	250-926-0044
Shop Maintenance		
Entertainment		250-285-2377
Publicity		250-830-0889
Bugle Editor & Distribution	Gordon Burkholder	250-923-1740
<b>Non-Executive Positions</b>		
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 and 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](http://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.

### **Executive meeting Notes**

The Show dates are June 10, 11 & 12 with Friday being the set-up day starting at 3:30 and Saturday and Sunday being days open to the Public. The Timberline Gym will be the venue again this year. Table rental this year will be \$70 per 8' table. A one day option will cost \$40.

Silent Auction will be done twice a day, once in the morning and once in the afternoon. 10 – 12 and 1 – 3

Notices will be sent to vendors, the BCLS and all Island rock Clubs once agreements have been signed and confirmation made.

### **Entertainment Report**

This meeting's entertainment will be to work on gem trees specifically destined for the kids' table at our annual Show. Bring along some wire snips to cut the craft wire to length and strong fingers to twist the wires.

### **Zone Report**

I'd just like to remind Ripple Rock members that the next zone meeting will be held at 12:30 on the Sunday of the Victoria show. It is held at their club house and a light lunch is provided. If you are planning on being there at the show, and you are invited to attend, please let Jan Boyes or Ulla Williams know so they can inform the Victoria club to prepare some extra food.

Ulla will be chairing the meeting and some of the BCLS executive will also be there to make a report. Thanks to Jan for sending out the reminder.

**Gordon Burkholder, Senior Zone Delegate**

### **Editor's Message**

Being on the road provides many challenges for a person producing a monthly newsletter. The age of technology certainly allows me the opportunity to do so, but it's not always easy. There are places in the desert where there is no cellular or digital or internet reception and even with the addition of a 'Wi-Fi' range booster you cannot always get internet service. So when I get to a place where the reception is available I must make haste and get the job done. I hope that in my haste I have created something more-or-less free of errors.

In this month's edition I'd like to provide a bit of information about the Quartzsite "rock show" as well as the Tucson Show. I hope you are piqued to find out more or even to attend one of these events one day. Of course, many of our members have attended one or both of these shows and make it a regular part of their year so there are lots of 'us' who can answer questions about one or the other of these events. Good reading!

**Gordon Burkholder**

**Quotable quote:** Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning. *Albert Einstein*

## GEM OF THE MONTH

### Fire Agate

Being in Arizona for the winter provides one with an opportunity to find some interesting rocks. Out among the volcanic desert there are often many desert roses to be found. Scattered in among some of these 'gems' are the amber to red minerals that create a fire agate. They are not large and not of a very high quality but they are fun to hunt and a bit of a thrill to find. Here's some more information on the gem of the month. Fire agate.



**Fire agate**, a variety of chalcedony, is a semi-precious natural gemstone discovered so far only in certain areas of central and northern Mexico and the southwestern United States (New Mexico, Arizona and California). Approximately 24-36 million years ago these areas were subjected to massive volcanic activity during the Tertiary Period. The fire agates were formed during this period of volcanism when hot water, saturated with silica and iron oxide, repeatedly filled cracks and bubbles in the surrounding rock.

Fire agates have beautiful iridescent rainbow colors, similar to opal, with a measurement of hardness on the Mohs scale of between 5 and 7 which reduces the

occurrence of scratching when polished gemstones are set in jewelry. The vibrant iridescent rainbow colors found within fire agates, created by the Schiller effect as found in mother-of-pearl, is caused by the alternating silica and iron oxide layers which diffract and allow light to pass and form an interference of colors within the microstructure layering of the stone causing the fire effect for which it is named.

Wikipedia

**Quote:** This consumeristic society we all live in is very complex. We all have very high expectations - we want the big house or the car and the 2.5 kids - but we don't know whether it really brings us happiness and fulfilment because sometimes those dreams burst.

- Annie Lennox

## ARIZONA GEM SHOWS

### Quartzsite

#### **Quartzsite Showcase & Swapmeet / Quartzsite, Arizona USA**

**Venues:** 10 show locations. (4 rock, gem and mineral show locations)

**No. of Vendors:** 3,000 (but only 500 are gem, mineral, fossil, bead & jewelry vendors)

**Show Dates:** January 1 - February 28, 2016



A crowd walking among some of the vendors

## What you'll find at this year's Showcase:

The Quartzsite shows are famous among professional and amateur lapidaries and jewelry artists. The small desert town lies about 18 miles east of the Arizona-California border, and about 250 miles northeast of Tucson. A quiet town of about 3,000 year-round residents, that population explodes during the January-February show, making Quartzsite a vibrant outdoor desert shopping mall. About 3,000 vendors from all over come to Quartzsite to sell virtually anything and everything, including serious dealers (about 500) of rocks, minerals, gems, fossils and jewelry. Of the ten or more shows happening simultaneously there are four that are strictly rock and mineral related: Desert Gardens Show, QIA Pow Wow, Prospector's Panorama, and Tyson Wells Show. Prices are notoriously cheap — compared to Tucson, where costs for many of the same items tend to be quite higher. All shows have free admission and parking — though very difficult to find — and no registration is required.

*Quartzsite Improvement Association*



*Rocks, rocks and more rocks!*

As the article outlines, Quartzsite is not just about the Rock and Mineral Club's Show. The vendors begin setting up early in January and continue to the end February. As a matter of fact the Rock Club's show (QIA Pow Wow) is towards the end of January running from the 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> this year. There are many areas to explore for treasures and the numbers of people who 'flock' to the area is truly amazing. As one snowbird put it to me, "It (a visit to Quartzsite) has to be on your bucket list!" If it's on your list of must-do

things there are plenty of spaces to plant yourself on the desert or in town at one of the dozens of RV parks. Bring along a list of things you are desperate to get and a lot of patience as the crowds can be large. *Editor*

The **Tucson Gem and Mineral Show®** has enjoyed international stature since the 1970s, and was the first gem and mineral show to bring the hobby enthusiast, the public, and the curator/professionals together for discovery and discussion.

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The Tucson Gem and Mineral Society

proudly presents the

## **2016 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show®**

"Shades of Blue: Minerals of the World"

**FEBRUARY 11-14, 2016**

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Janet and I are camping a few miles west of the city (Tucson) and have had the opportunity to attend several of the many show venues. It can be overwhelming to walk down aisles of vendors from all over and try to pick out something to look at that is new or exciting or of special interest. We went to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Market, Kino Memorial show. The Clarion Gem show and even the wholesale market on Country Club Road. It is truly amazing to see how many people are drawn to these 'shows'. **Editor**

### Mineral Displays



**Exhibits** Our show exhibits provide a rare window into private and museum collections of the mineral world's stars. It is with great pride that the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society and the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show® Committee showcase different treasures each year.



### Kids and the Show

The Tucson Gem and Mineral Show® feature two separate annual events that focus on kids. The Society's hope is to create an impact on curious young minds, and share the delight in the science and beauty of minerals and related earth sciences. The Society and the Show Committee invite approximately 3000 elementary students to attend the Show. They are afforded a special opportunity to view the exhibits and shop with the dealers. Additionally, over 2,000 children of all ages visit the special Jr. Education area where U of A SESS students share a wealth of mineral and earth sciences information, and answer their questions.



## Supporting Mineral and Earth Sciences Organizations

Non-profit mineral and earth sciences organizations are invited, at no cost to them, to participate at the show. Each organization staffs their booth and meets with the public to share an abundance of information.

### Saturday Night Program

The Saturday Night Dinner Program on February 13, 2016 will include a silent auction, buffet, awards ceremony, slide competition awards and a voice auction.

### Lectures & Seminars

Lectures are held Thursday through Sunday of the Show week in the Crystal Ballroom and Turquoise Ballroom at the SMG-Tucson Convention Center. The Arthur Roe Memorial Micro-mount Symposium is held on Friday, February 12th in the Turquoise Ballroom of the SMG-Tucson Convention Center. Lecturers and symposiums are open to the public and free of charge.



### Show Retail Dealers

There are an estimated 250 retail dealers sharing the Exhibition Hall and the Arena areas of the Tucson Convention Center. An unparalleled variety of mineral, fossil, jewelry, lapidary crafts and related publications are presented under one roof



### **School Visits**

The Society and the Show Committee invite approximately 3,000 Arizona school students to attend the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show® free of charge with their teachers and chaperones. This affords the children a special opportunity to view the exhibits and shop with the Dealers on Friday morning of Show week.

The “shows” in Tucson actually start on January 29<sup>th</sup> and run until mid February. The Tucson Gem and Mineral club’s show starts on February 11<sup>th</sup> and ends on Valentine’s Day. **Editor**

**Final Thought:** Misdirected focus on paperwork, on procedures, and on bureaucracy frustrates teachers and fails to give children the education they need.

- *Christopher Bond*