



BUGLE



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

Editor: Steve Cooley

September 2018
Regular monthly meeting
2nd 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

RIPPLE ROCK EXECUTIVE 2018

President	Linda Henderson	250-286-1718
Vice-President		
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)	Ron McBurnie Linda Henderson	250-285-2377 250 286-1718
Show Chair	Pat Doyle	250-285-2377
Shop Coordinator	Molly Milroy	250-830-7643
Entertainment		
Publicity	Diane Cooper	250-830-0889
Bugle Editor	Dennis Cambrey	250-337-8949
Non-Executive Positions		
Showcases		
Slab Draw/Collection		
Coffee Break		
Webmaster		

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.

Regular meeting minutes September 14, 2018

2 guests, 14 members

Several members were absent on a field trip to central Oregon

Mail – only snail mail over the summer were bank statements and a notice to pay the fee to renew our postal box. Several emails came in the last portion of August and early September. They were forwarded as they came. The B C Lapidary Society notified us in late spring or early summer that they were sending their emails to every member listed in the Society's directory. Several members reported that they received the BCLS's email twice, once directly and once from me. Several others only received the one I forwarded. One checked the directory and found their name and/or address was wrong.

Informal reports were given about last year's rock show. Denis sent a preliminary report soon after the show in June and it was forwarded to each member. He hasn't sent a final report yet. Dagmar gave her report on the Gem Tree table. 182 trees were made, the table was easier to manage when 3 members were there. It was a money maker (not counting our labour!) Linda reported that we made a minor amount when the kitchen was open for coffee and muffins.

Gemboree was in Sooke this year. At least one couple from our club attended. They were surprised to find out there is a slate quarry on Vancouver Island.

Jan Boyes will not be able to attend the Vancouver Island zone meeting on our behalf anymore. Melissa and/or Sunday will continue as our representatives for the remainder of the zone's year (May to May).

Shop report – The slab saw is running very smoothly now that it has been switched to 220V. There will be openings on Thursday afternoons in October. When supplies are purchased for the shop, make out an expense form (copies are in the back of the sign-in book) and give them directly to Denis, either by mailing them to Box 6, taking it to his house on Miracle Beach road, or giving it to the secretary at York Machine Works. Steve will use the shop in November for 4 classes, Tuesday and Thursday mornings, to teach introductory lapidary skills to students from the Elders College. The college rents the shop from us.

Denis has volunteered an outbuilding at his shop's site for rock carving. This is for carving hard rocks, not soapstone. A member has volunteered to demonstrate and supervise. When everything is setup, a notice will be circulated.

Melissa found a supply of small gold panning pans and was encouraged to buy 6 or 8 for the club.

Diane encourages the seamstresses in the club to make a few rock bags whenever they feel in the sewing mood to spread out the job over year. They need to be about 5x6 with a draw string.

Linda had a selection of agates and crystals given to her to sell on behalf of the collector.

Adjourned at 8:15.

The slab draw was held.

Pictures from Dagmar



Slate mine/quarry –
field trip Sooke
Jamboree



Apprentice rock
houlder – Sooke
Gemboree

Cabochon

In the gemstone world, a [cabochon](#) is a stone that is cut with a highly polished, rounded or convex top with no faceting and a flat or slightly domed base. A cabochon may be cut in any shape, though oval is by far the most common. The term comes from the French *caboche*, meaning knob or small dome. Certain stones are almost always cut "en cabochon", including [opal](#), [turquoise](#), onyx, [moonstone](#), and [star sapphire](#). In the gemstone world you will often hear the term cabochon shortened to "cab".



[Cabochon Gemstones](#)

Technically, cabochons are not really "cut". Rather, they are shaped and then polished. It is thus a much simpler task to produce a cabochon than it is to cut a faceted gem with many faces. Before the art of faceting was developed, all gemstones were produced as [cabochons](#), though some were intricately [carved](#) as well.

[Faceted gemstones](#) made their appearance in European [jewelry](#) during the late 13th and early 14th centuries. With the advent of the horizontally turning cutting-wheel in the late 1400s came the possibility of designing and repeating elaborately conceived geometric faceting schemes, thereby controlling and enhancing the light coming from within the stone.

The fascination with geometry and reflected light during the Renaissance accelerated the development of a sophisticated [lapidary](#) art. Starting with the Renaissance gem-cutting trade in Bruges, to Venice, Florence and eventually the whole of Europe, the management of light became the central theme in [gem cutting](#).



[Fire Opal Cabochon](#)

Once the technology and skill was available to facet gemstones, why were cabochons still produced? The question is an interesting one because different gems are cut as cabs for different reasons. In many cases it is because the gem has special properties that are displayed only when it is cut as a cabochon. Examples are gems that display [optical phenomena](#) such as [asterism](#) (the star effect), [chatoyancy](#) (the cat's eye effect), iridescence (e.g., opal) or [adularescence](#) (e.g., moonstone).



[Chrysoberyl Cat's Eye Cabochon](#)

Most gems that are opaque are cut as cabochons rather than faceted. Also, lower grade material of gemstone types such as [sapphire](#), [ruby](#) and [garnet](#) is cut as cabs. If the gem material has very good color but is not sufficiently transparent or clean to be faceted, it can still be shaped and polished into very attractive cabochons. It is also common to cut softer stones as cabs, since gems with a hardness score of less than 7 (on the [Mohs scale](#)) can easily be scratched by the [quartz](#) in dust and grit. Minute scratches show much less on a cabochon than on a faceted stone.

Copied from <https://www.gemselect.com>

Local field trip locations

Fossils – the cuts along the Inland Island Highway, best spots are near the Buckley Bay exit and the Hamm Road exit.

Flower stone, dallasite, breccia, conglomerate and many hard, polishable rocks are found in the gravel bars of almost every river. Locally, the Oyster River and Tsolum Rivers have easy accessible gravel bars. Not so local are the White River, Salmon River, Adam River and the Eve River from Sayward and North.

There are placer gold claims on the Oyster River. Panning the sediments in the potholes upstream of the bridge on the Duncan Bay Main may show some ‘colour’.

There are dozens of mining claims within 30 miles of Campbell River. They can be found by searching the government mining report site called ‘Minfile’ at <http://minfile.gov.bc.ca>. Each claim was made because some formation or mineral was found by a prospector and reported. If samples or ore was taken, the details are reported. Some claims are close to roads and are just a short walk, some are much longer hikes. Hiking to some locations may just be a picturesque hike through the bush with the showing covered over with moss and brush. Each claim on the minfile site has its latitude and longitude recorded. The accuracy of the coordinates may be poor.

Two claims close to us resulted in significant mines, the Argonaut iron mine and Quinsam Coal. Quinsam is active and not usually open to rockhounds or anyone else. The Argonaut is open to one and all. It is on a forestry road passable by most cars and may be in use by logging companies. A good view of the Upper Quisam Lake, magnetite, marble, garnet and brass in many calibers from .22 to 12 gauge can be easily found at the old mine site.