

MAPLEWOOD ROCK AND GEM CLUB

2020
FEBRUARY

Inside this issue

Birthstone - amethyst	6
Calendar	3
Connect with us	2
Crafters social group	10
February Board meeting	2
Field trips	12
General meeting	1
Juniors	6
Lapidary shop	10
Looking for a party venue?	5
Maplewood Rock Stars	5
March Garage Sale	2
New Zealand travel adventure	15
Rock of the Month	1
Rock painting class	7
Rock Shows Near and Far	9
Show and tell	11
Silent auction	10
Sister club in Australia	20
Too many rocks at home?	19
We have a new Board!	4



General meeting

February 10 at 7 pm

This month the meeting is on the second Monday. In March we return to 3rd Monday meetings.

If your name begins with a letter from N to Z, please bring a sweet or savory snack to share.

Rock of the Month

Lab Created Stones versus those Formed Naturally

Laura Hayes will tell us about how stones vary depending on how they formed: in a lab or in nature.



Connect with us

Visit our website: <http://www.maplewoodrockclub.com/>

Connect with us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MaplewoodRCG>

Come to a meeting :

8802 196th St SW
Edmonds, Washington 98026



February Board meeting

All club members are welcome at the board meetings. Join our Board at their next meeting on February 6 at 7 pm.



**Garage
Sale**

March Garage Sale

We are having a garage sale at our March meeting. Now is the time to dig into closets and scan your shelves for items you no longer need. These pieces might find new homes where they are just the thing someone has been wanting. Sign up at the February meeting for table space to sell rocks or other small treasures. Each seller will have half a table for their display. There will be no Rock of the Month or Show and Tell at the March meeting.

Calendar

Date	Event
Feb. 10 at 7 pm	Meeting Rock of the Month: "Lab Created Stones versus those Formed Naturally" by Laura Hayes
Mar. 16 at 7 pm	Meeting Members' Garage Sale No Show and Tell or Rock of the Month
Apr. 4 – 5	5th Annual Spring Sale
Apr. 20 at 7 pm	Meeting Rock of the Month – "Cornwall England Mines" by Laura Hayes
May 18 at 7 pm	Meeting Rock of the Month presentation: open
June 15 at 7 pm	Meeting Rock of the Month presentation: open
July 20 at 7 pm	Meeting Rock of the Month presentation: open
Aug. 8 - 9	14th Annual Rock and Mineral Sale
Aug. 17 at 6:30 pm	Meeting: BBQ Potluck and Meet and Greet
Sept. 21 at 7 pm	Meeting Rock of the Month presentation: open
Oct. 19 at 7 pm	Meeting Rock of the Month presentation: open
Nov. 14 – 15	Annual Fall Show
Nov. 16 at 7 pm	Meeting: Rock of the Month presentation: open
Dec. 5 – 6	Annual Winter Bazaar
Dec. 14 at 6:30	Meeting: Holiday Party

Rock Shows

Check out the [January news](#) for a long list of rock and gem shows around our region in 2020.

We have a new Board!

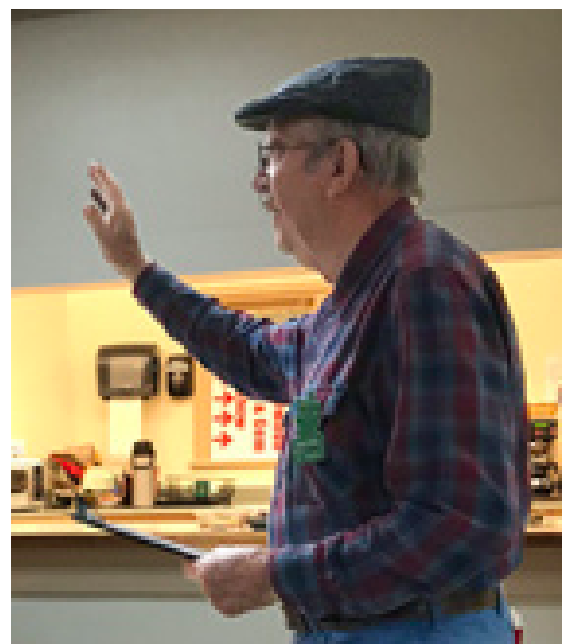
At the January general meeting the 2020 Board was sworn in. Our new President is Sandra Newby, shown in the photo at the right. The other Board members are

- Sandra Newby, President
- Cindy Darley, Vice President
- Carla James, Secretary
- Diane Krok, Treasurer (temporarily, until the position is filled)



- Mary Ann Collins
- Mike Collins
- James Davison
- Diane Korf, President Emeritus
- Nancy Ross
- Blair Wright
- Cindy Wright
- Mel Miles (temporary, At Large)

In the photo at the right Howard is swearing in the new Board.



Maplewood Rock Stars

In addition to our Board we celebrate those who are planning, organizing, and administering events and other aspects of our club that help make our club a community. These generous volunteers are

- Building - open position
- Bulletin boards: Amy Bergin
- Classes: Cindy Wright
- Community and Library Displays: Joy Wiley
- Historian: Jeni Lake
- Internet and Facebook: Carla James
- Juniors: Rose Darley
- Kitchen: Cindy and Bryce Darley
- Lapidary Shop: Mike Collins and James Davison
- Library: Marguerite Davison
- Membership: Nancy Ross
- Mineral Council: Bruce Samuels
- Newsletter: Nancy Samuels
- Parliamentarian/Recorder: Eric Adams
- Publicity: open position
- Rentals: Mary Ann Collins
- Rock of the Month Presenters
- Sales and Shows: Mary Ann Collins
- Sunshine: Nancy Ross
- Ways and Means: Cindy Wright



A few leadership positions are open. Can you help out?



Looking for a party venue?

The Maplewood Clubhouse is a great venue for gatherings. If you are planning a family reunion or a party that would overflow your home, consider renting the Clubhouse for a day. Members get 50% off the daily rate of \$350. For more information or to schedule a date, contact Mary Ann Collins at 650-383-7625.

Birthstone - amethyst

For those with February birthdays, "Happy Birthday!" Your birthstone is amethyst, which is a violet variety of quartz.

The name, *amethyst*, has a surprising derivation. The name was coined from the Koine Greek, *amethystos*, from two roots:

"a" meaning "not"
methysko meaning "intoxicate".



In the Hellenistic period (323 - 31 BCE) of Greek culture people believed that an amethyst protected its owner from drunkenness. People would wear amethysts and drink from goblets carved from amethyst to prevent intoxication.

Around the world from the Greeks, the Tibetan Buddhists consider amethyst sacred to Buddha, and they often make prayer beads from this gem.

For more information about amethyst, check out the Wikipedia page:
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amethyst>



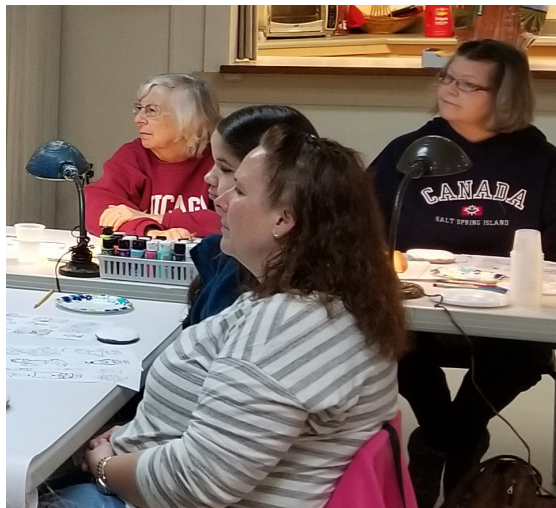
Juniors

The Juniors meeting starts at 6:30, before the general meeting. Guests are free and always welcome. They do not need to come with or even know a member.

If you know any kids between 5 and 12, who are interested in rocks, encourage them to come. Encourage them even if they are not interested, because who can resist rocks once they know what they are all about.

Rock painting class

In November we hosted a rock painting class at the club. Here are some pictures of the class and freshly painted rocks.





Rock Shows Near and Far

More shows are listed in the [January newsletter](#).

February 8 – 9 in Oak Harbor

Open: Saturday 9 am – 5 pm and Sunday 9 am to 4 pm
 "55th Annual Sweetheart of Gems Show" by Whidbey Island Gem Club
 Oak Harbor Senior Center: 51 SE Jerome Street

February 28 – March 1 in Portland

Open: 9:30 am – 5 pm
 "OAMS Gem and Mineral Show" by [Oregon Agate and Mineral Society](#)
 OMSI: 1945 SE Water Ave

You might want to also visit the nearby [Rice Museum of Rocks and Minerals](#) while you are in Portland.

February 29 – March 1 in Seattle

Open: 10 am – 5 pm
 "66th Annual Rock and Gem Show" by [North Seattle Lapidary & Mineral Club](#)
 Crown Hill Center: 9250 14th Ave NW

March 6 – 8 in Forest Grove, OR

Open: 10 am – 5 pm
 "62nd Annual Rock and Mineral Show" by [Tualatin Valley Gem Club](#)
 Forest Grove National Guard Armory: 2950 Taylor Way

March 7 – 8 in Caldwell, ID

Open: Saturday 10 am – 6 pm; Sunday 10 am – 5 pm
 "66th Annual Rock and Gem Show" by [Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society](#)
 O'Conner Field House: 2200 Blaine

March 14 – 15 in Filer, ID

Open: Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sunday 10am - 4pm
 "70th Annual Show" by [Magic Valley Gem Club](#)
 Twin Falls County Fairgrounds: 215 Fair Ave. (east of Filer on US Hwy. 30)



Lapidary shop

On Thursday afternoons members can drop in to the Lapidary Shop to make cabochons and to cut and polish stone. There are two sessions, one from 3 – 5:30 pm and another from 5:30 to 8 pm, and each session costs \$5. On the first Thursday of each month, the second session is cancelled so people can attend the Board meeting.

At the Lapidary shop safety is taken seriously. Only club members may use the shop, and your first visit will begin with a mandatory detailed safety training lesson.

Crafters social group

When the Lapidary Shop is open, an informal group of crafters meet from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Members are welcome to bring their own craft projects and enjoy a social time in the club meeting room.



Silent auction

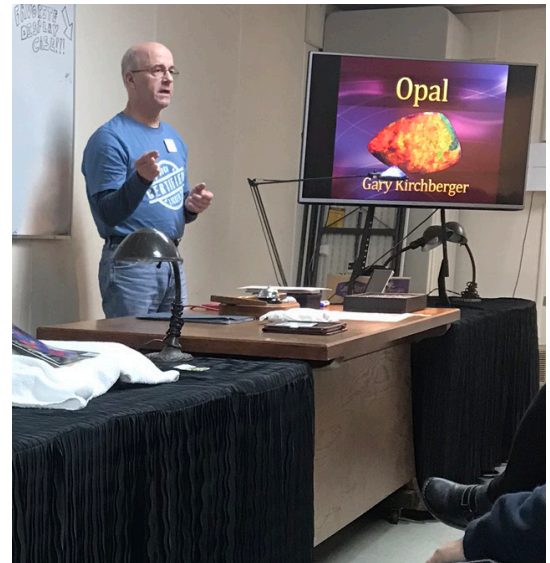
Mandy and Sandra Newby always have varied rocks and minerals for sale in the silent auction during the monthly general meetings. Check out the table and make a bid; you just might be able to add another gorgeous rock to your collection.



Share you knowledge

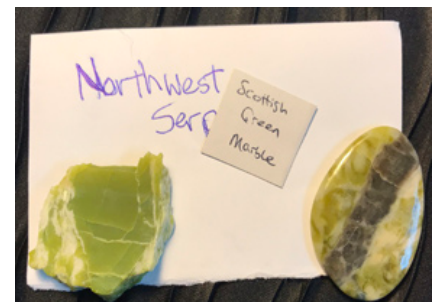
At every general meeting, except December's meeting, someone shares their knowledge about some aspect of rocks, gems, or minerals. This is our Rock of the Month presentation. Recently, we've learned about opals, gold, and metal detecting. Members enjoy digging a little deeper into a topic and learning.

Have you become knowledgeable over the years about labradorite? Are you a geologist who could enlighten us about how rocks were formed? If you've been rockhounding for a while, perhaps you could hone in on a topic and share your knowledge in a Rock of the Month presentation. Please talk with a Board member to learn more.



Show and tell

Do you have a couple rocks or minerals that have piqued your interest? Following the Rock of the Month presentation, you are invited to share rocks from your collection. Perhaps they are meaningful to you because you wonder how they were formed, you find them especially beautiful, or they evoke memories or stories.



Field trips

The Washington State Mineral Council lists many field trips scheduled for this year, and you will find them in the table below. For updated information about field trips check out the website for the Washington State Mineral Council <https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com/>

Contact the host a week before the trip

- At least a week before the trip, please contact the host and ask about
- New or updated details about the scheduled trip
- Whether you will need a Discover Pass, Trailhead Pass, or Forest Pass
- Fees
- Maps and directions

Club contact information

Marysville Rock Club and
Darrington Rock Club

Ed Lehman wsmced@hotmail.com
home: 425-334-6282
cell: 425-760-2786

NOA club: Tony Johnson 253-863-9238

Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral Club: Dennis Bachchelor
360-870-8741

All Rockhounds Pow Wow

Larry Vess vessel3755@gmail.com
253-473-3908

Bring with you on the trip

Arrive at the meeting place 30 minutes before the start time, and bring

- Food and drinks for the day
- Appropriate clothing for any possible weather
- Cash if there are fees
- Tools
- Map and directions
- First aid kit

Words of the Month

Synthetic gems

Synthetic gems are chemically, physically, and optically identical to natural gems, but they are created in labs rather than found in nature. These are also called cultured or manufactured stones.

Simulated gems

These are synthetic stones made to mimic an expensive natural gem. Cubic zirconia is a simulated gem that is made to imitate diamonds. Simulated gems do not have the same chemical, physical, or optical properties of the stones they mimic.

Date	Rock or Mineral	Location	Details
1/25	Jade, Hematite & more	South Skagit	Host: Darrington Rock Club 9 am Hwy 9 and South Skagit Hwy park & ride Tools: stream bar
2/15	Geodes and agates	Walker Valley	Host: Marysville Rock Club 9 am Big Lake Store Tools: hard rock
3/21	Geodes, zeolites, and calcite	Beaver Valley	Host: Marysville Rock Club Beaver Valley Rd Info Center Tools: hard rock
4/4	Fossils and morel mushrooms	Racehorse Creek	Host: Darrington Rock Club 9 am Hwy 542 at roundabout 10 miles from I-5 Tools: dig and light hardrock
4/18 – 4/19	Petrified wood	Saddle Mt Mattawa	Host: All Rockhounds Pow Wow 8 am Boat Launch Tools: dig and hard rock
5/9	Talc, listwonite, etc	Cascade River	Host: Darrington Rock Club small fee 9 am Marblemount, left turn Tools: hardrock
5/23	Rainbow chert, concretions	Red Bridge Verlot	Host: Darrington Rock Club 9 am Verlot Ranger Station Tools: light hardrock

Date	Rock or Mineral	Location	Details
6/23 – 6/28	Agate, jasper, thunder eggs, petrified wood	Madras, OR	Host: All Rockhounds Pow Wow 8 am Jefferson Fair Ground Tools: dig and hard rock
6/27	Petrified wood, maybe opal	Saddle Mt	Host: Marysville Rock Club 9 am Mattawa W Mattawa Lep Re Kon Market (Harvest Foods) Tools: dig and hard rock
7/20	Travertine, Sauk R bars	Sweetwater	Host: Darrington Rock Club 11 am Darrington Rock Show Tools: dig and hard rock
8/15 – 8/16 New Date!	Agate, jasper, opal, and petrified wood	Greenwater	Host: Dennis Bachchelor 360-870-8741 BBQ on Saturday 9 am Enumclaw Ranger Station Tools: dig and light hard rock
9/12 – 9/13	Geodes, agate, jasper, and jade	Red Top/ Teanaway	Host: All Rockhounds Pow Wow 8 am Teanaway at Middle Fork Campground Tools: dig and hard rock
9/19	Thunder eggs, WA Lilypad, and fossils	Little Naches	Host: Tony Johnson 253-863-9238 10 am Hwy 410 and Forest Road 19 Tools: dig and light hard rock
10/24	Picture jasper	Money Creek Skykomish	Host: Marysville Rock Club 9 am Money Creek Campground Tools: dig and river bar pick

Date	Rock or Mineral	Location	Details
11/21	WA dalmation stone, chert	Blanchard Hill	Host: Darrington Rock Club 9 am I-5 exit 240, Gas Mart Tools: hard rock

Tell us about your latest rockhounding adventure

Have you been out collecting rocks? Have you been to a great mineral museum or gem exhibit? Your friends in the Maplewood Rock and Gem Club would love to see your photos and hear about your experiences. Please email Nancy, the news editor (mrgc@nancysamuels.com) to share your story.

In the story below Jim Miller shares his experiences and some of his photos of his trip to New Zealand. The trip wasn't to collect rocks or minerals, but rather to enjoy their beauty in New Zealand's Southern Alps.

New Zealand travel adventure

by Jim Miller

During the first two weeks of December 2019, a long time friend and I visited the South Island of New Zealand. Because New Zealand is located south of the equator, our trip occurred during their late springtime, when winter was getting established in the greater Seattle area. My friend had visited New Zealand twice before, and he had friends that resided in the city of Christchurch.

The photo shows Christchurch from the side of an extinct volcano located east of the city. Christchurch is about the size of Spokane and was heavily damaged in an earthquake that occurred in 2011.

In the photo you can see clouds hanging on the mountains west of the city. Those clouds were part of an epic storm that we endured for most of our stay. The primary goals during our



visit were: 1) fly fishing in some of New Zealand's famous trout streams, and 2) hiking in the country's fantastic Southern Alps. The storm put a serious damper on both activities, but the trip was a great experience nevertheless.

Aoraki/Mt. Cook National Park

I'm going to focus this story on our visit to Aoraki/Mt. Cook National Park (Aoraki is the native Maori name for Mt. Cook). We visited the park three times with great expectations.

Unfortunately, the storm was raging during our first two visits. We stopped at a roadside viewpoint during the storm to see if we could get any views of the rugged mountains that make the Southern Alps famous.



The photo above shows the view toward the mountains across stormy Lake Pukaki. We knew beautiful alpine scenes had to be there somewhere, but to our disappointment, clouds cloaked the mountains and hid the views.

Five days later the storm abated, and we returned to the park during the most beautiful day imaginable! The sky was crystal clear and the Southern Alps were in full view. The photo below shows the same scene as above, after the storm.



Tasman Valley



We went on three separate hikes in the park that day, taking maximum advantage of blue skies and spectacular scenery. The first hike was in the Tasman Valley, which supports an active alpine glacier and impressive glacial landforms. The photo below shows the Tasman Valley from a distance.

The low hills visible in the lower left-center of the photo mark a terminal moraine that formed during the "Little Ice Age" that

occurred between about 1700 and the mid-1800s. A moraine develops at locations where the rate of glacial advance is matched by the rate of melting at the ice front. Glacial ice continues to advance, but it drops its load of rock and sediment at the terminus, thus forming a ridge-like moraine of glacially transported debris.

The relatively short Tasman Valley hike took us to the top of the moraine, where we could see the terminus of the Tasman Valley Glacier and its meltwater lake. The glacier is experiencing rapid retreat at this time.

Glaciers recede when the rate of melting at the end of the glacier exceeds the rate of glacial advance. The ice front extended all the way to the terminal moraine as late as 1985. Since then, as the climate has warmed, the ice front has receded more than a kilometer and a meltwater lake has developed where ice existed until relatively recently.

The photo at the right was taken from the crest of the terminal moraine and shows a view of the meltwater lake and the terminus of the debris-covered glacier. A prominent lateral moraine is present along the left side of the lake, as are "kettles." These water-filled depressions formed where stranded blocks of ice melted within the moraine deposits.



Hooker Valley

After the Tasman Valley hike, we went on a spectacular trek into Hooker Valley. This hiking trail includes three suspension bridges for crossing gushing glacial meltwater streams. The photo shows one of the suspension bridges.



The Hooker Valley hike took us to the terminal moraine of the Mt. Cook Glacier and its associated meltwater lake. With a summit altitude of 12,218 feet, Aoraki/Mt. Cook is the crown jewel of the Southern Alps. The mountain is draped in alpine glaciers and exposes sedimentary rocks that have been severely crumpled by mountain-building forces. The photo below shows Aoraki/Mt. Cook standing high above its valley glacier and meltwater lake.



Two weeks are not enough

Although weather limited our activities during much of our New Zealand visit, this one spectacular day made the trip a huge success for me. We found New Zealand and its citizens to be gracious and welcoming. I would encourage anyone to visit this unique destination. Two weeks are not enough...

Jim Miller



Too many rocks at home?

Please donate rocks for our monthly Raffle and Silent Auction.

The Club's raffle, silent auction and prize programs are very popular with club members and are a major source of revenue. When the prizes are interesting, beautiful, and desired, we sell more tickets. We encourage all members to consider donating rocks that we can raffle or auction off at our monthly meetings and at club Shows in April, August and November.

Sister club in Australia

Our sister club in Australia is the Atherton-Tableland Mineral & Lapidary Club in Tolga, Queensland. Connect to them on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/groups/197340266987276

One hundred million years ago the eastern edge of the Australian continent extended much farther to the east. Tectonic forces broke off and submerged into the ocean the eastern section while a rising mantle caused the remaining land to lift.

Beginning 4 million years ago large basalt flows filled river valleys and formed a relatively flat landscape. Following that period the volcanoes became more gaseous spewing lava in violent eruptions. This landscape is now called the Atherton Tablelands. You can learn more on Wikipedia.



This issue

Maplewood Rock and Gem
Club News

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News to share? A suggestion? A correction?

Please send news ideas and images you'd like to share to the newsletter editor, Nancy Samuels at mrgc@nancysamuels.com.