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October meeting

Monday, October 16th at 7 pm

Our October meeting will include a silent auction, so you can go home with an addition to your collection.

If your last name begins with N-Z, please bring food to share. The snacks are appreciated by those who come directly from work and everyone else. Remember to wear your name badge. There is a \$0.25 fine for forgetting yours.

Banner image

The banner photo shows raw opals in a photo by [Orbital Joe](#) and published here under the Creative Commons license [BY-NC-ND 2.0](#)

Community rock show November 11 and 12

What drives your passion for rocks? Agates? Petrified wood? Opals? Crystals? Please consider sharing your love of rocks with others at our Community Rock Show on November 11 and 12 from 10 am to 5 pm. We have display cases that you can use to showcase your collection.

If you work with rocks to enhance their beauty or usefulness, we hope you sign up to demonstrate your skill or to simply fill a display case with items you have worked, perhaps showing examples of raw specimens and the finished products.



This show offers a chance to bring your friends and family, so they can see why so many people love rocks.

At the October meeting you will be able to sign up for a display case for your personal collection, unless all the tables are full by then.

Whether you are participating in the show or not, we need your help to put out signs, set up tables and display cases, clean up, and more. Please volunteer to help with the show at our October meeting.

Holiday Gift Bazaar December 9 and 10

This show is a great place to purchase holiday gifts. We will have many vendors selling finished products, ready to wrap and give to a friend or family member. We need many volunteers to help put on this show, so if you haven't already volunteered, please sign up at the October meeting. Helping out is a good way to meet other club members and get to know others in our community.

Tips from a seasoned rockhound

Floyd Duncan, a member of our club, has a tip for newcomers who want to become rockhounds.

Are you a Rockhound?

He recommends that you go on some field trips or visit places where you can collect rocks, but first, fill your pocket with marbles. If you see an interesting or beautiful specimen, pick it up and leave one of your marbles in its place. Continue on your rock hunting venture until your marble pocket is empty. When you've lost all your marbles, you are a true rockhound!



Identifying rocks for friends

When on a rockhounding trip with friends, sometimes a friend will ask Floyd to identify a rock specimen so they can decide whether to keep it. Floyd examines the rock, noting color, structure, crystal shape, and other telling characteristics. Then, he confidently suggests they keep it or he identifies it as Leaveright. Usually, the friend will ask what Leaveright is, and Floyd will reply, "leave `er right there".



If you were born in October...

Happy Birthday!



Your birthstones are opal and pink tourmaline, two gorgeous and quite different stones.

The name *tourmaline* is from the Sinhalese word, *toramalli*, which means *stone with mixed colors*. Tourmaline often forms crystals with one color gently fading into the next like the specimen at the left.

The name *opal* is from the Sanskrit word, *úpala*, which means *precious stone*.

Below is a raw opal with gorgeous iridescence.



Field Trips

Here are the field trips in our area as published on the [Mineral Council website](#). Click *Field Trips* in the left column for up to date details on that website. The field trips led by Pow Wow require the participants to pay annual dues of \$7.50. The trips that don't have specific dates, are tentative.

Date and Time	Host and Location	Details
Nov 11 at 9 am	Blanchard Hill Northbound I-5 take Alger Exit #246. Meet at Gas & Go Mini Mart	Dalmation Stone & Green Chert Bring hard rock tools

Rock shows

Date and Time	Host and Location	Details
Nov. 11, 10 am – 5 pm Nov. 12, 10 am – 5 pm	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Free!
Dec. 9, 10 am – 5 pm Dec. 10, 10 am – 5 pm	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Holiday Gift Sale

Our Maplewood Club

Classified Ads

Our website now has a Classifieds page for members to post items for sale, items they want to buy, and helpful tips and information. If you would like to share a link to a favorite rock shop or post a notice about a tumbler you are selling, check out the [Classifieds page](#) on the website.

Silent Auction

Paul Newby chooses about 10 rock or mineral specimens for the silent auction at the meeting each month.



Spread some sunshine

Nancy Ross is our Sunshine committee. If you are aware of a member who might be cheered by a get-well card, please contact her, and she will write and send a card.

Grit for sale

The Shop Stewards sell grit on Thursdays when the shop is open. Please let them know a day ahead that you will stop by to purchase grit.

To contact the Shop Stewards, email shop@maplewoodrockclub.com

Each grit package is \$4, and this is what they sell:

- 1 lb of 60/90
- 1 lb of 120/220
- ¾ lb of pre-polish
- ½ lb of polish

Lapidary Shop

Our lapidary shop is reserved for members who have paid their dues. Inside are five slab saws, three CabKing™ machines for polishing cabochons, and two trim saws.

Sign up for shop time

All shop users must sign up for a time slot at least a day before the session. On their first visit, new shop users will be trained on shop procedures and safety before being able to use any equipment.

You can [sign up for shop time online](#). The system will send you a confirmation email which you should save until after your session. You will need the email if you want to cancel your reservation. Each Thursday we have shop sessions available:

- Session 1: 3:00 to 5:30 pm
- Session 2: 5:30 to 8:00 pm (except on the first Thursday of each month)

How to cancel

If you sign up for shop time online and later realize you won't be able to make it to the session, you need to cancel your reservation no later than the day before the session. This enables someone else to sign up. If you do not cancel, you will be charged for the session. To cancel, click the link in the confirmation email you received after you signed up.

What to bring

You need to bring \$7 (cash or check) to pay for the session. Additionally, you might like to bring these:

- Face mask to not breathe rock dust or for Covid protection
- Hearing protectors

Before you leave the shop

The shop stewards are volunteers who generously give 6 hours a week to enable us to use the tools. Before you leave a tool station, please wipe it down and leave it in the same condition as you found it. If you discover a problem with a saw or tool, please let the Shop Steward know.

Shop Stewards

Rich Osborne
Bruce Samuels
Ashley Martin
Nathan O'Brien

Shop@maplewoodrockclub.com



Connect with us

Website: <http://www.maplewoodrockclub.com/>

Facebook page: Maplewood Rock & Gem Club

Facebook group for members: MRGC Sales and Trades

Email us: info@maplewoodrockclub.com



Address: 8802 196th St SW, Edmonds, Washington 98026

Our Board

Our club is run entirely by volunteers; and we are grateful for the time, energy, and expertise they give to our community.

President: Michele McGraw

Secretary: Carla James

Treasurer: Bruce Samuels

Members at large: Nancy Ross, Rich Osborne, and Nancy Samuels.



Image licenses

We use abbreviations in the license attributions. Here are the definitions.

CC: Creative Commons license

BY: attribute the author, link to the license, and indicate if changes were made.

SA: share alike - If you publish the image, you must use the same license.

ND: no derivatives - You may not alter the image.

NC: non-commercial use - You may not use the image for commercial use.

3.0 or other number: version of the license

Rock lovers everywhere

Washington State Mineral Council

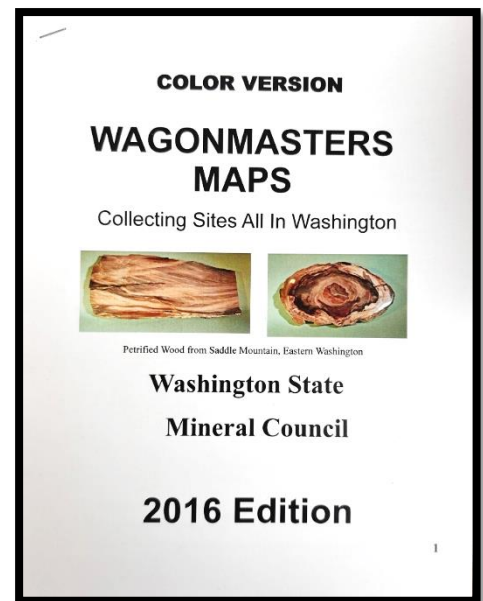
Our club, along with many other rock and gem clubs in the state, is a member of the Washington State Mineral Council. This organization helps us by

- advocating for access to public lands
- advocating for beneficial land use policies
- compiling and sharing maps and other information
- publicizing shows and field trips so members learn about and can participate in events at other clubs

Read their latest [Newsletter](#).

Maps for Rockhounds

The Washington State Mineral Council has put together a 62-page booklet with maps for finding rock hounding sites. You can buy a copy for only \$20 at the meeting.



Seattle Regional Gem and Mineral Shows Committee

Our club is a member of a Seattle area organization of rock clubs. Together we share wooden display cases that we use at our shows. These cases are stored in the new shed behind our building. The other member clubs are the North Seattle Lapidary Gem and Mineral Club and the West Seattle Rock Club.

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Our club is a member of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies: <http://Northwestfederation.org>.

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 the eastern section into the ocean 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.



News to share?

Did you go rockhounding? Have you acquired a beautiful new specimen? Please send stories, images, or simply ideas for articles that Nancy would write to the newsletter editor, Nancy Samuels at MRGC@nancysamuels.com.

This issue

Maplewood Rock and Gem Club
News

Volume 10, Publication year: 72