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November meeting

Monday, November 20th at 7 pm

We will have a silent auction at this month's meeting, so you can go home with a wonderful addition to your collection or a gift for the holidays!

Our November meeting will feature a review of the Open House last weekend. We'll go over how sales went and Linda and Marion will give a People's Choice Recognition Award for the winning display cases that a member made.

This month we will be voting for new board members for 2024.

We will go over some details about next month's Christmas Party, including a preview of some of the amazing items that will be offered at the special silent auction we'll have at the party.

Banner image

The banner photo shows raw citrine crystals in a photo by [Lovestruck](#) and published here under the Creative Commons license [BY-NC 2.0](#)

Holiday Gift Bazaar

December 9 and 10

10 am – 5 pm

This show is a great place to purchase holiday gifts. We will have well over a dozen vendors selling finished products, ready to wrap and give to a friend or family member. Now is a good time to invite friends, neighbors, and family to the show.

We need many volunteers to help put on this show, so if you haven't already signed up to help, please join the team at the November meeting. Helping out is a good way to meet club members and get to know others in our community.



WINTER BAZAAR

SATURDAY, DEC. 9
10 AM - 5 PM

SUNDAY, DEC. 10
10 AM - 5 PM

MAPLEWOOD ROCK AND GEM CLUB
8802 196TH ST SW, EDMONDS

Grab your hat and mittens and come to the Maplewood Rock and Gem Club Winter Bazaar. This is your chance to finish (or start) your holiday shopping.

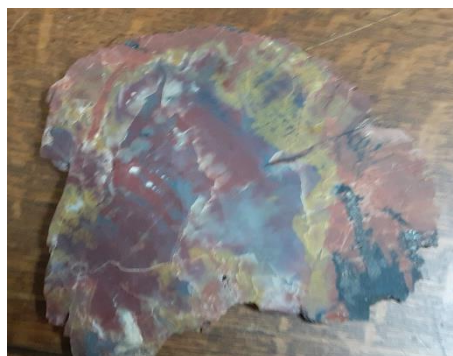
Come to browse, to buy, or to be simply out of the house among friendly people and gorgeous rocks, stones, and whatever can be made with them.



December Holiday Party

Our December member meeting will be a holiday party. We won't have a Rock of the Month presentation or conduct our usual business discussions and announcements. However, we will have a Silent Auction. Photos of the auction items that will be for sale are shown below.

The highlights of the party will feature a gift exchange and a potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to share and a wrapped rock related gift costing less than \$10; the gift could even be a rock from your collection. The gifts will be randomly given out while *Twas the Night Before Christmas* is read.



If you were born in November...

Happy Birthday!

Your birthstones are topaz and citrine.

Since the third century BCE, people have mined peridot on a small island which was called Topazios in the Red Sea. Later, the island became Zabargad, and even later, it was renamed St. John's Island.

While the island was called Topazios, people thought peridot was the same as green topaz, and an abundance of peridot was found there. Topaz crystals are shown below, left. On the right is an olivine crystal from Topazios Island.



Topaz by [James St. John](#); License [CC BY 2.0](#)



Olivine by [:77](#); License [CC BY-SA 3.0](#)

Rock shows

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

Community rock show

At our Community Rock Show this month our members displayed a variety of specimens. Visitors at the show voted for the displays they found most interesting, and at the November meeting Linda and Marion will reveal the winner. Linda and Marion, our show managers, staffed a Sales table where they sold specimens. They brought in over \$2500 for the club. Not all the silent auction money has been received and none of the expenses have been paid, so the final net proceeds is still unknown. The Treasurer, Bruce, will give us an update at the member meeting.

Lynz made a display showing the process of making a cabochon beginning with going out and finding the rocks and ending with shaping, polishing, and wire-wrapping the cab. Jake's display included a wide variety of fossils, both large and small. In addition to these, there were many other interesting displays. Photos of the displays are on the following pages.



Ashley's Turquoise display



Nathan's display



Bruce's display of obsidian



Marge's display



Linda's display of amethyst



Lynz's display showing stages from raw rocks to finished cabichons



Ed and Ashok's display of raw and finished specimens



Gary's display of opals



Juniors' display

Juniors

The Juniors program is back! It will begin in January 2024, thanks to the efforts of Amaryah Daniels and Michele McGraw. This is a monthly activity that will take place 45 minutes before each member meeting. Amaryah and Michele will lead the program.

The first Juniors meeting will be January 15th at 6:15pm. Michele will be telling the kids about Washington State's Gem: petrified wood.

If you would like to share a short presentation with the Juniors group in 2024, please let Michele know.



Boy on a rocky beach
by [sophie & cie](#); License [CC BY 2.0](#)

Kudos

Randy and Rich made the shop shine for the November Community Show by cleaning saws and the floor! Thank you!

Linda & Marion planned, organized, and managed the awesome community show earlier this month. Thank you!

Paul N. & Nancy R helped unload the large donation we received and have started sorting the specimens and other items. Thank you!



Rags needed!

When the oil-cooled saws are cleaned, the volunteers use rags and then throw them away. They need a continual supply of old towels they can use and dispose of. Any size towel is appreciated.

Please donate any old towels you can spare.

Rock Candy

If eye candy is something beautiful to behold, this is rock candy for you to enjoy.



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

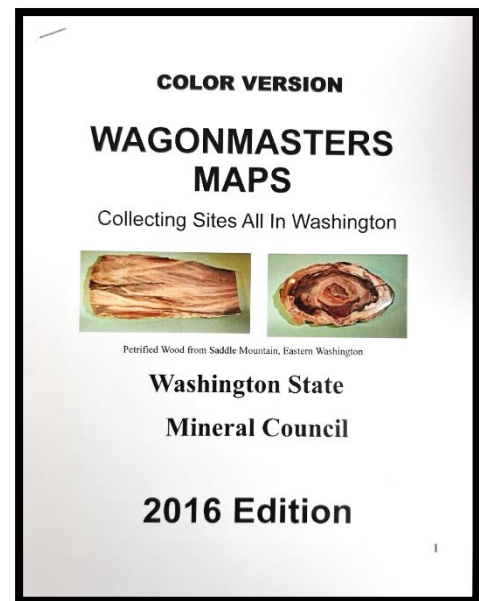
Our club, along with many other rock and gem clubs in the state, is a member of the Washington State Mineral Council. This organization helps us by

- 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 11, Publication year: 72