

In this issue

Jade field trip	2
Classes at the Clubhouse	3
Stone Drilling	3
Vibratory Tumbler	3
Proposed lithium exploration	4
Juniors	5
Toughest rock	7
Groundskeeping Day!	8
Spring Show 2025	9
Grow Our Collection	14
Exploring Yosemite National Park	17
Jim Miller	24
Calendar of Events	25
Happy Birthday!	26
Rock lovers everywhere	28
Trips and shows	29
Dinosaur Comics	32
Shows farther afield	33
Maps for Rockhounds	35
About Us	36



April meeting

Monday, April 21 at 7 pm

Don Wilcox will tell us about jade this month. After he builds our interest in jade, Don is offering a field trip to Canada in May to shop for British Columbia jade.

If you already have jade in your collection, you may want to bring it for Show and Tell.

Paul Newby is organizing the silent auction with specimens you can bid on.

For those with last names beginning with N - Z, please bring snacks to share.

Banner image

The banner image shows two jade carvings in Bruce Samuels' collection.

Jade field trip

April 26th from 8 am to 5 pm

Don Wilcox will be hosting a field trip to British Columbia, Canada on Saturday April 26th. The trip will make 2 stops in Canada (possibly a 3rd which is still in the works): Jade West/Jade Mine (retail store) and Rubble Rock and Gem (retail store), as well as one stop in northern Washington, Northstar Stone & Landscape Supply.

The trip requires a valid passport and no criminal history that might stop participants at the border. Estimated time is 8 am through 5 pm. Please contact Don directly at wilcox.don@comcast.net for details and to arrange carpooling.



Jade; Photo by Don Wilcox

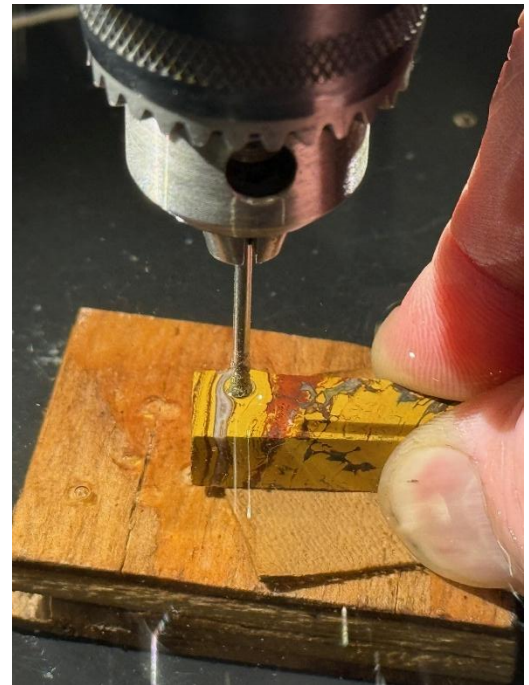
Classes at the Clubhouse

Stone Drilling

May 22 from 7 to 8 pm

Don Wilcox will provide a demonstration on equipment and supplies used to drill holes in stones for beads and artistic considerations. This will include both a demo and discussion on methods, tools, supplies, and safety.

All club members are welcome. The demo is free for members. We request a \$10 donation from non-members.



Vibratory Tumbler

May 29 from 7 to 8 pm



Don Wilcox will provide a demonstration on equipment and supplies used in vibratory rock tumblers. This will include both a demo and discussion on methods, tools, supplies, and safety. The class will also cover the key differences between vibratory and rotary tumblers.

All club members are welcome. The demo is free for members. We request a \$10 donation from non-members.

Proposed lithium exploration

Comment period ends on April 25th at 4:30 pm

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is seeking input on proposed lithium exploration in McDermitt Caldera in Malheur County, Oregon. The plan is titled *HiTech Lithium Exploration Plan of Operation*, and you will find details at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2025844/510>.

A summary of the plan says: *If approved, HiTech Minerals Inc. could modify approximately 100 acres with 267 exploration drill sites across 7,200 acres of public lands.*

If you would like to comment, you have two choices.

- Post your comment online by clicking *Participate Now* on this web page: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/search?searchText=HiTech%20Lithium%20Exploration%20%20Plan%20>
- Send your comments in an email to mailto:BLM_OR_VL_LithiumHiTech@blm.gov

Tips for writing comments

If you have not commented on a project before, you might like to watch a video where they show you how to do it. <https://player.vimeo.com/video/426232762>

The BLM has written a guide for writing constructive comments, and you can download or read it at:

https://eplanning.blm.gov/public_projects/lup/21152/45070/48572/Commenting_Guide.pdf

As part of another proposed project, the BLM developed a guide, *How to Comment Effectively*, and you can read it at

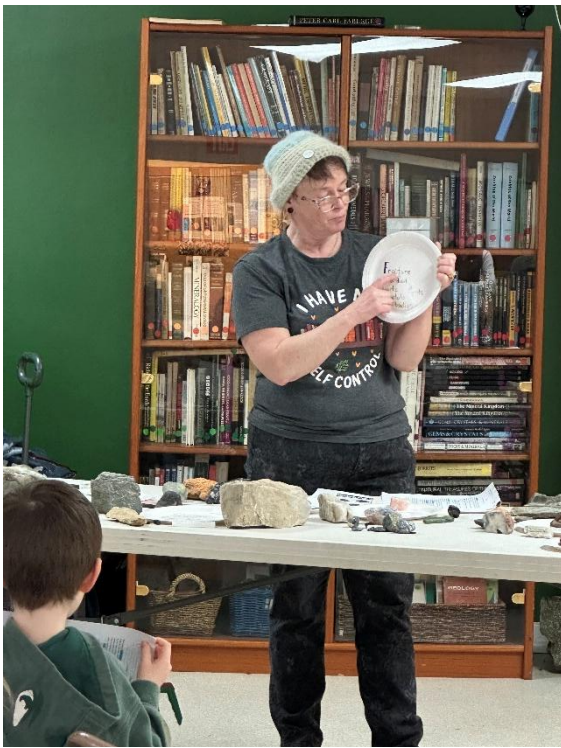
https://eplanning.blm.gov/public_projects/2020347/200531796/20109335/251009329/20240320_SWCA_HowToComment_508.pdf

Juniors

Amaryah Daniels

juniors@maplewoodrockclub.com

Our March meeting welcomed 27 enthusiastic juniors who dove into the world of rocks and geology. The session began with an introduction to essential rock vocabulary and a review of the rock cycle. We were thrilled to have guest speaker Raven Thompson join us — she captivated the group with her knowledge about rock classification and brought along an impressive collection of rock samples. Raven guided the juniors through hands-on identification techniques, focusing on sedimentary rocks, fossils, and the distinctions between intrusive and extrusive igneous rocks.



Raven Thompson shares her extensive rock collection with curious juniors



Learning through play—juniors role-play as environmental forces in the rock cycle activity

To reinforce their understanding of the rock cycle, the juniors participated in a lively role-playing activity led by Amaryah Daniels. Each participant embodied an element like rock, rain, sun, wind, or waves, exploring how environmental forces interact with and transform rocks. Through this engaging game, they answered thought-provoking questions about geological changes and the natural world.

March's display case highlighted the incredible rock collection of Maddie and Abby Mahoney—thank you both for sharing your treasures with the club!



Juniors take a closer look at sedimentary rocks and fossils during Raven's hands-on presentation.



Amaryah Daniels guides the juniors through a rock cycle simulation game



Juniors explore how rocks transform through rain, sun, wind, and waves

April meeting

Looking ahead, we're excited to welcome Heather Martin next month for a hands-on session where the juniors will try their hand at wire wrapping. It's sure to be a fun and creative experience!

Toughest rock on the block

Toughest and second toughest

There are two minerals that are called jade: nephrite and jadeite. Nephrite is a silicate (meaning it contains both silica and oxygen) of calcium and magnesium, while jadeite is a silicate of sodium and aluminum. Both minerals naturally occur in several colors, including green, white, yellow, brown, and black.

Jade is the toughest rock, meaning it is the hardest to fracture or break. Diamond is harder but fractures more easily.

Of the two forms of jade, nephrite is the strongest. In fact, it's tougher than steel. In the neolithic era, nephrite was used for axe heads, knife blades, and ornamental carvings.

Its secret for being so tough is that it is made of interwoven fine fibers (needle shaped crystals). These thin hairs form a mesh making it hard to sever. Coarser crystals and a looser mesh decreases the toughness. Nephrite contains more fibers, and so is tougher than jadeite.

Is it jade?

Jade has more simulants than most other gems, according to gemologist, Jill M. Hobbs in *The Jade Enigma* (link below in *More about jade*). Hobbs identifies the 10 most common simulants and tells us how to differentiate them from jade. Simulants are often other minerals that sellers refer to as Mexican jade, silver peak jadeite, or some other name. These minerals include malachite, chrysoprase, jasper, amazonite, aventurine, serpentine, and even soapstone. Even once you identify a specimen as jade, without examining the crystal structure, it can be extremely difficult to tell jadeite and nephrite apart.

More about jade

Here are some links to additional information about nephrite and jadeite.

- <https://www.gia.edu/doc/The-Jade-Enigma.pdf>
- <https://www.geologyin.com/2023/02/jade-gemstone-properties-types.html>



*Calakmul funerary mask, made of jade, shell and gray obsidian, located in Structure VII, Tomb 1, Calakmul, Campeche, exhibited in the permanent exhibition of the Museum of Mayan Architecture, Baluarte de la Soledad, Campeche. By Mario E. Fuente Cid
License: [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)*

Groundskeeping Day!

By Michele McGraw

The Clubhouse welcomed the arrival of Spring (Saturday, March 22nd) with a group of enthusiastic helpers who came ready to sparkle and shine the building inside and out.

A heartfelt thank you to Crister Sausler for taking the lead in organizing and coordinating this day.

Yardwork was needed: pinecone raking, pruning, weeding, and pressure washing of the sidewalks and entry mats.

The Lapidary shop got some needed attention: saws cleaned, mats pressure washed, floor cleaned, shelves organized.

The inside got a refresher: kitchen tidy, floors cleaned, mats removed and cleaned, restrooms sparkled.

A symphony of capable hands and kind hearts.

Volunteers are the heart of how we keep this club alive and vibrant. Working together, we are united and feel pride in maintaining this legacy in the community that is open to all, serves many, and is a creative haven for all things rock, mineral, and gem.

Thank you for answering the ongoing call to join us. Many opportunities await and we know you'll join us when you are able. Big jobs, little jobs, whether a leader or a capable friend ready to lend a hand. Everyone is welcome!



Photo and art by Michele McGraw

Spring Show 2025

By Michele McGraw

April brought some spring showers but also showcased another exciting rock and gem show here in our footprint. The sunny weather on Saturday April 5th meant a good crowd and lots of shopping for unique and interesting finds. Sunday's showers did not dampen the enthusiasm and spirit of who we are and what we offer to the community.

Many volunteers made this event possible, and we extend a huge thank you to leaders who stepped up to coordinate all the organizing and planning: especially Gary Kirchberger who fielded all the vendors for this event – inside and out - 25 total!

Members generously shared their time doing all the important work of setting up, manning Ways & Means, taking care of our vendors with food, beverages, and breaks, and then take down. So many behind the scenes tasks aren't as visible but are required: publicity, signage, banking, show security, are just a few of the extra needs a show requires to hum. Thank you!

Photos by Raven Thompson-Happy and Angela Vitense











A Heartfelt Thank You and a Call to Grow Our Collection

By Angela Vitense, President

We want to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude to each and every one of you who has generously donated to our organization over the years. Your contributions of rough rocks, minerals, gemstones, and fossils have been instrumental in building the incredible collection we have today. Because of you, we've been able to:

- Enrich our educational programs: Your donations have provided invaluable resources for students of all ages, sparking curiosity and fostering a deeper understanding of the natural world.
- Expand our exhibits: The diverse array of specimens you've shared has allowed us to create engaging and informative displays that captivate and inspire our visitors.
- Preserve our planet's history: Many of the fossils and rare minerals we've received are irreplaceable pieces of Earth's story, and your donations help ensure they are preserved for future generations.

Whether you donated a single, stunning crystal or an entire collection, your generosity has made a significant impact. We are truly grateful for your support.





Looking to the Future

As we continue to grow and evolve, we are always seeking to expand our collection and enhance our programs. With that in mind, we would like to invite our general membership and the community to consider making future donations of rocks, gemstones, minerals, and fossils.

Perhaps you have a personal collection that you'd like to see find a new home, where it can be appreciated by a wider audience. Or maybe you've come across a unique specimen on your own adventures that you think would be a valuable addition to our exhibits. Whatever the case may be, we welcome your contributions.

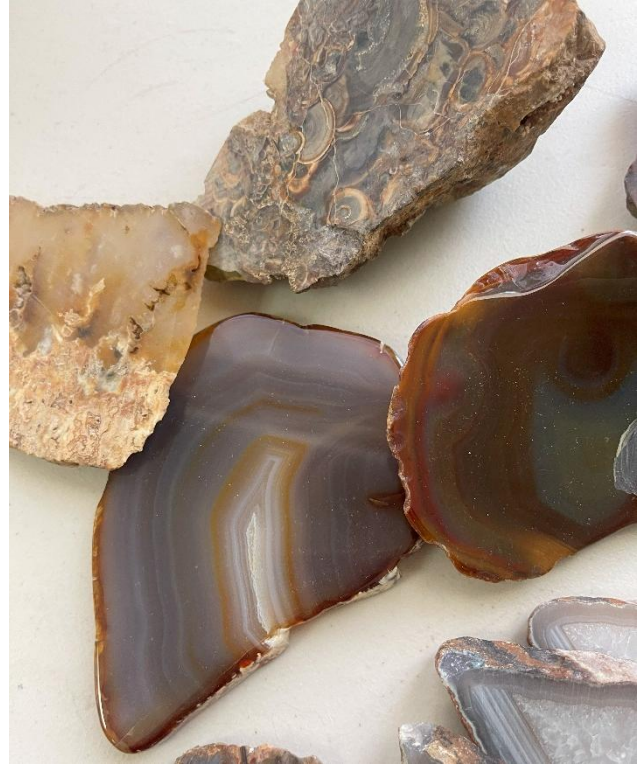


Contributing to Ways & Means Sales

In addition to directly enriching our collection, your donated specimens can also support our organization through the Ways & Means committee sales. These sales are a crucial source of funding, helping us to maintain our facilities, support our programs, and continue our mission. If you have materials that are suitable for sale, such as

- Rough stone and slabs
- Mineral specimens (especially those popular with collectors)
- Polished stones and cabochons
- Fossils
- Jewelry-making materials
- Lapidary equipment

...please consider donating them to the Ways & Means committee.



Your contributions to these sales directly support our ability to continue our work.

Your donations, whether for direct addition to our collection or for the Ways & Means sales, play a vital role in supporting our mission to educate and inspire.

If you're thinking about making a donation, please reach out to us at

waysnmeans@maplewoodrockclub.com.

We would be delighted to discuss your contribution and answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your continued support!

Exploring Yosemite National Park

By Jim Miller

My wife Jill and I took a road trip to Carson City, Nevada in late September of 2017. The primary interest for Jill was a three-day dog show, where she entered our Belgian Sheepdog into the competition. While she was enjoying the dog show scene, I commuted daily to Yosemite National Park (YNP) in California for some hiking and scenery gawking. This was my first visit to this famous national park since I was a young child and I was greatly interested in seeing its wonders. The photo below shows one of the classic views of Yosemite Valley from the west entrance area.



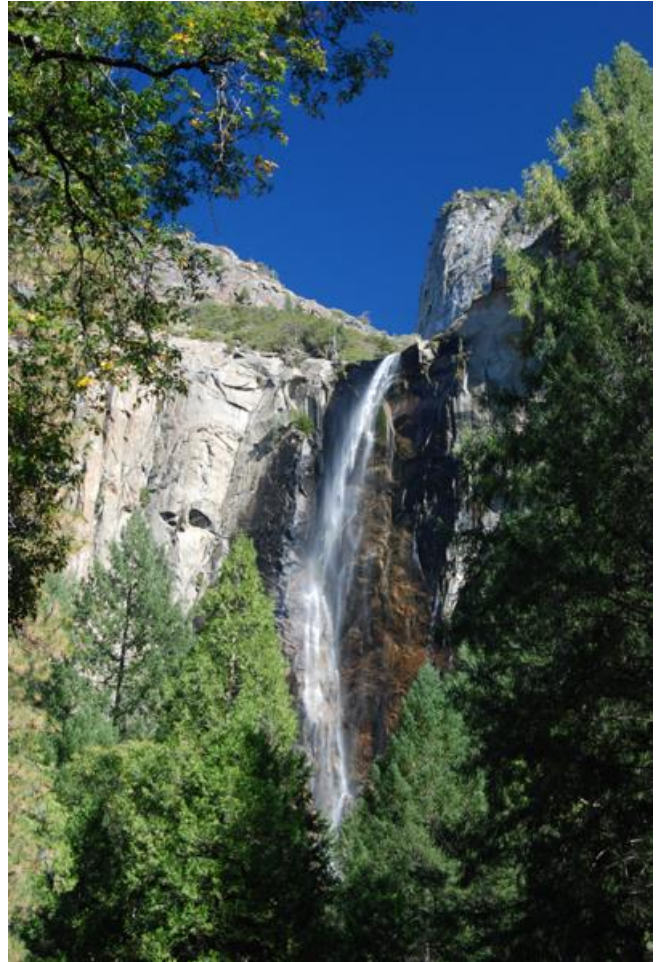
Traveling from Nevada, I entered YNP from the east on the incredible Tioga Road. The east park entrance is at an altitude of nearly 10,000 feet. Not surprisingly, this amazing road is not open in the winter months. I was fortunate that during my visit the skies were clear with only a hint of wildfire smoke.

Most of the park consists of massive granite, much of which is exposed at altitudes of 8,000 to more than 12,000 feet. A thick cap of glacial ice covered the central portion of the park during past glacial periods. Glaciers flowed slowly outward from the summit areas and spilled into the adjacent river valleys. The wonderful cliffs and domes that give the park its unique landscape were sculpted under the immense weight of glacial ice.

Yosemite Valley is the largest and most famous of the glacially carved valleys within YNP. Amazing walls of granite are exposed in the iconic cliffs of El Capitan and Half Dome, as seen in the following photo.



In addition to spectacular rock walls, Yosemite Valley hosts numerous waterfalls. One of the most famous is Bridalveil Fall, which is shown in the two images below (distant view of waterfall near the center of the left photo).



Even in late September, Yosemite Valley was crowded with visitors and tour groups. Although I enjoyed the spectacular scenery of the valley, I spent most of my time exploring the high country along Tioga Road. In particular, I couldn't get enough of a wonderful viewpoint known as Olmsted Point. The parking area for this viewpoint can be seen in the photo below.



The bare granite adjacent to the Olmsted Point displays a somewhat bizarre erosion pattern along fractures within the rock, as shown here. Large, glacially transported boulders (known as glacial erratics) also litter the nearby slopes.





I took a short hike to the summit of a granite dome adjacent to Olmsted Point. It was amazing to see large trees growing out of fractures within the light-colored granite (see here).

The summit of the dome afforded a spectacular view of Tenaya Lake to the northeast (photo below).





The east side of Half Dome is exposed dramatically from Olmsted Point. The near-vertical face of Half Dome rises more than 4,000 feet above the valley floor and was carved by glaciers that have occupied Yosemite Valley several times in the past million years of earth history. This photo shows Half Dome from Olmsted Point (only the upper portion of Half Dome is visible).

From a geologic perspective, the most interesting hike that I traversed in YNP was to May Lake. This entire scenic hike is at an altitude above 8,700 feet, so I huffed and puffed a bit on the ascents. But the hike was only 3 miles round trip, and the rewards were great. The following photo shows May Lake, with lake level at an altitude of 9,270 feet.



The vast majority of YNP consists of igneous granite that ranges in age from about 70 to 220 million years. However, the southern shore area of May Lake is home to ancient metamorphic rocks that are more than 500 million years old! These metamorphic rocks include quartzite and gneiss that are sandwiched between two mountainous masses of granite. The gneiss has been tortured into amazing patterns by heat and pressure deep beneath the earth (see the following photo). Several interesting minerals are present within the gneiss, including diopside, garnet, biotite, hornblende, and pyrite.



The landscape of YNP is the story about an unimaginable duration of time and the fascinating evolution of our planet. The rocks now exposed at the ground surface originally formed at depths of five to ten miles below the ground. Several episodes of mountain uplift and millions of years of slow erosion by water, wind and ice are responsible for displaying the amazing landscape of YNP to today's visitors.

I did not have time to explore many of the wonders of YNP in 2017. So I returned in the late summer of 2018 for one day of high-country hiking. An all-day excursion to Cathedral Peak (see below) and Cathedral Lakes only increased my appreciation for this spectacular and mystical place.



If you plan to visit this incredible park and enjoy its geology, I strongly suggest that you first obtain and read a wonderful book titled "Geology Underfoot in Yosemite National Park" by Allen Glazner and Greg Stock (2010). This book does a great job explaining the geologic origins of YNP with a writing style and illustrations that are easy to comprehend by casual visitors, as well as by professional geologists.

Jim Miller

Jim Miller is a long-time member of Maplewood Rock & Gem Club. He is a retired geologist and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in geological engineering, as well as a Master of Science degree in environmental geology. Jim has loved rocks, fossils, crystals and the natural world since grade school. He enjoys rock tumbling and is an accomplished flintknapper. In 2006 Jim wrote and published a CD book on the types of stone used for knapping arrowheads and stone knives. He enjoys technical writing and has had several of his articles published in Rock & Gem magazine.

Calendar of Events

Here are some important dates for your calendar. Parties and social time are such valuable ways we get to know each other that we dedicate two meetings a year to them. In August we have a BBQ and in December we have a holiday party. All our other meetings are on the third Monday at 7 pm.

Event	Date	What's happening
Stone Drilling	May 22	Class
Vibratory Tumbler	May 29	Class
Container Clean Out	June 7 - 19	Organize the storage container
Summer Show	August 16 and 17	Show
Summer BBQ	August 18 at 6 pm	Potluck dinner and party instead of a member meeting
Annual Showcase	November 8 and 9	Demonstrations and displays for the community
Holiday Show	December 6 and 7	Show
Holiday Party	December 8 at 6 pm	Potluck dinner and party instead of the December meeting. Please note it's on the second Monday, not the usual third.



Juniors display at the 2024 Annual Showcase

To rockhounds born in April,

Happy Birthday!

May your birthday be filled with all your favorites, like family, friends, fun, and finding rocks, perhaps even one of your birthstones, a diamond.

In Arkansas you can dig for diamonds at the [Crater of Diamonds State Park](#). All the diamonds you find, you keep! Here are a couple diamonds unearthed at the park.



The Strawn-Wagner diamond was found in 1990 by Shirley Strawn of Murfreesboro, Arkansas. It is one of a very few colorless diamonds ever found in the world that is internally flawless. Before being cut it weighed 3.03 carats, and after, it was 1.09 carats. Photo by [Swcom](#). [CC By-SA 3.0](#)



The [Uncle Sam diamond](#) weighed 40.23 carats when found and 12.42 carats after being cut into an emerald cut gem. Schenck & Van Haelen of New York cut this diamond as they have for more than 14,000 Arkansas diamonds. They report that the Arkansas diamonds are so hard that the only diamond that will cut them is using powder from previously cut Arkansas diamonds. It is a nearly flawless diamond with only a few parts per million impurities. Image by the [Smithsonian Institution](#). Public domain.

**THE PUYALLUP VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB
IS HOSTING 2 SHOWS IN 2025**

“Come Rock With US”

**The Puyallup Valley 2025 Gem & Mineral Show
June 6th 12:00pm – 5:00pm,
June 7th 10:00am – 5:00pm, & June 8th 10:00am – 3:00pm
Swiss Park, 9205 198th Ave. East, Bonney Lake, WA.**

The Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club is hosting its 2025 annual show called The Valley of Gems Show, typically held the first full weekend of June.

With vendors both inside and outside you'll find a vast selection of rough and finished “treasures” on display. Choose from crystals, minerals, fossils, beads, findings, lapidary equipment, cabochons, geodes, and jewelry, just to name a few things to add to your collection. Inside, watch demonstrators show you “how it’s done” and see the many displays presented by PVG&MC members.

There is no admission fee, convenient parking, and disabled access. There is an adjacent covered picnic area for picnicking, walking trails through the trees and a play area for the younger rockhounds. If you don't picnic, food is available from the kitchen in the building. Also inside, visit the kids mine on the stage, and check out the silent auction and club sales area. Take a chance in our 3pm Sunday raffle which includes 2 - \$50 bills, a beautiful handmade rock lamp, rock tumblers, many pieces of jewelry and rock specimens donated by the vendors, and you don't have to be present to win.



Check out our website <http://www.puyallupvalleygemandmineralclub.com> for more information.

Questions? Comments?

Please contact us at PVG&MC@gmail.com or (253) 987-6751

Rock lovers everywhere

Before you go rockhounding

Rockhounding is fun to do with a group. Join one of the trips listed below and meet other local rockhounders. If you plan to go, please contact the host a week or so ahead to let them know you are coming and to find out if anything has changed.

As you get ready for the trip, we recommend that you go through this checklist:

- ☐ Contact the host a week before the trip.
- ☐ Plan your driving time so you arrive 30 minutes before the meeting time.
- ☐ If needed for parking, get a Discover Pass or bring money for a trailhead or forest pass.
- ☐ Collect your tools and containers for the rocks:
<https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com/photos-of-collecting-tools/>
- ☐ Prepare a first aid kit.
- ☐ Plan appropriate clothes, boots, gloves, snacks, and water.
- ☐ Gas up your vehicle.
- ☐ Review the Rockhound Code of Ethics. It's important to follow these so that the lands remain open for rockhounding.
<https://mineralcouncil.wordpress.com/rockhound-code-of-ethics/>



Rockhounding Hosts

Here is the contact information for hosts of the rockhounding trips:

Maplewood Club	Don Wilcox	wilcox.don@comcast.net
Marysville Club	Nique Wicks	nwhoppyfrog41@gmail.com (509) 670-0630
Pow Wow	Larry Vess	vessel3755@gmail.com (253)473-3908
Puyallup Club	Nate White	nate.white77@gmail.com (206)349-7054
Washington State Mineral Council	Ed Lehman	wsmced2@outlook.com (425) 334-6282
	Nique Wicks (contact information is above)	

Trips and shows

Date and Time	Host and Location	Details
April 26 th 8 am – 5 pm	Maplewood Rock & Gem Club To British Columbia stores: Jade West/Jade Mine (retail store) and Rubble Rock and Gem (retail store), as well as one stop in northern Washington, Northstar Stone & Landscape Supply.	The trip requires a valid passport and no criminal history that might stop participants at the border. Please contact Don directly at wilcox.don@comcast.net for details and to arrange car pooling.
May 3 rd and 4 th 10 am – 5 pm	Everett Rock and Gem Club Evergreen State Fairgrounds 18359 Cascade View Dr., Monroe, WA	70 th Annual Show

Date and Time	Host and Location	Details
May 10 th 9 am	Marysville Club Racehorse Creek site. Meet at the Mini Mart at I-5 exit 240.	Search for leaf fossils and morel mushrooms. Bring a shovel and rock splitting tools.
May 24 th 9 am	Marysville Club Wild Turkey mine site Meet at 3515 Waitts Lake Road, Valley, WA	Serch for noble serpentine. Pay to dig. Bring tools for hard rock or surface picking.
May 31 st 9 am	Marysville Club Walt Bailey Trail site Meet at the Verlot Ranger Station	Search for rainbow chert. Collecting along the roadside. Bring tools for hard rock.
June 6 th noon – 5 pm 7 th and 8 th 10 am – 5 pm	Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral Club Swiss Park 9205 198 th Ave. E, Puyallup, WA	Valley of the Gems show
June 21 st 9 am	Washington State Mineral Council Saddle Mountains site Meet at Harvest Foods in Mattawa, WA	Serch for petrified wood and opal. Bring tools for digging, breaking light hard rock, and surface picking
July 26 th 9 am	Marysville Club Lake Wenatchee site Meet at the rest stop just West of Lake Wenatchee on Hwy 2	Search for garnets. Bring a shovel and a screen container for the garnets
August 8 th and 9 th 10 am – 5 pm 10 th 10 am – 4 pm	Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral Club Tacoma Sportsmen's Club 16409 Canyon Road East, Puyallup, WA	2025 Jim Christian Memorial Show in the Trees

Date and Time	Host and Location	Details
Aug. 16 th and 17 th 9 am	Puyallup Club Greenwater site Meet at the Enumclaw Ranger Station	Search for agate, jasper, and opal. Bring tools for digging and hard rock.
Aug. 16 th 10 am – 5 pm 17 th 10 am – 4 pm	NW Stone Sculptors Association Evergreen Arboretum, Everett, WA	Fresh Paint 2025 Everett Arboretum Sculpture Walk https://www.schack.org/fresh-paint
Sept. 6 th and 7 th 8 am	Pow Wow Group Red Top site. Meet at the Teanaway Campground	Search for agate, jasper, and geodes. Bring tools for digging and hard rock
Sept. 20 th d 10 am	Puyallup Club Little Naches site Meet at the intersection of Hwy 410 and FR 92	Search for thunder eggs, fossils, lilypad jasper. Bring a shovel and small bar
Sept. 27 th and 28 th	NW Stone Sculptors Association Kubota Garden, Seattle, WA	Kubota Garden Sculpture Show and Sale
Oct. 1 st 9 am	Marysville Club Meet at Index, WA	Search for picture jasper. Bring a rock hammer.
Nov. 8 th 9 am	Marysville Club Blanchard Hill site Meet at I-5 exit 240 at the Mini Mart	Search for stilpnomelane (Dalmation stone). Bring hard rock tools. Collecting on the road shoulder.

Grit and oil for sale

The Shop Stewards have grit. When the shop is open you can buy grit or oil. Please email them a day ahead of when you will stop by to purchase grit: shop@maplewoodrockclub.com

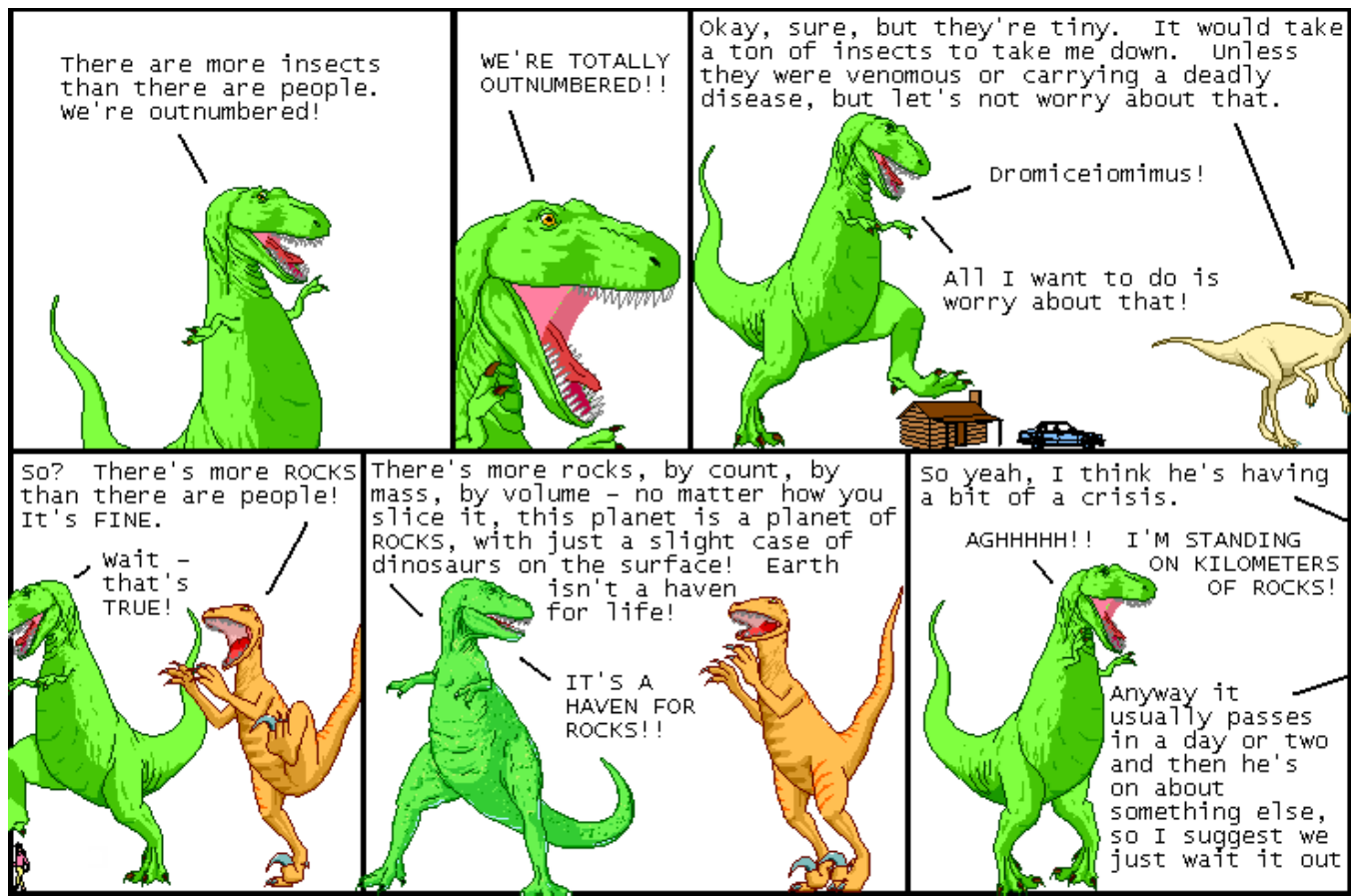
Each grit package is \$4, and this is what they sell:

1 lb of 60/90
1 lb of 120/220

$\frac{3}{4}$ lb of pre-polish
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb of polish

Gallon of oil for \$20

Dinosaur Comics



(C) 2024 Ryan North

www.qwantz.com

[Dinosaur Comics](#) by Ryan North. You can follow him on [BlueSky](#).

Shows farther afield

Who wouldn't enjoy a weekend in British Columbia, Oregon, or the sun zone east of the Cascades?. These shows offer a chance to see some places you might not have visited yet.

Date and Time	Host and Location	Details
April 19 th 10 am – 6 pm 20 th 10 am – 5 pm	Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral Society Bonnevill County Fairgrounds 1542 E 73 rd South, Idaho Falls, ID	59 th Annual Show \$3 ages 13 and over
April 25 th 10 am – 4 pm 26 th 10 am – 5 pm 27 th 10 am – 4 pm	Yakima Rock and Mineral Club Central Washington State Fair Ground Modern Living Building 1301 South Fair Ave., Yakima, WA	62 nd Parade of Gems \$7 ages 18 and over \$2 students ages 13 and up
April 26 th 10 am – 5 pm 27 th 10 am – 4 pm	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club Benton Franklin County Fairgrounds, Building 2 1500 S Oak St, Kennewick, WA	28 th Annual Rock and Mineral Show \$5 ages 15 and over Ages 14 and under are free with an adult
May 3 rd 9 am – 5 pm 4 th 10 am – 4 pm	Umpqua Gem and Mineral Club Douglas County Fairgrounds 2110 Frear Ave., I-5 exit 123, Roseburg, OR	53 rd Annual Show, "One More Rock"

Date and Time	Host and Location	Details
May 10 th 10 am – 6 pm 11 th 10 am – 5 pm	Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center 1705 East Airport Road, Hermiston, OR	<i>Natures Treasures Underfoot</i> \$5 for one day \$12 for all three days
May – June May 31 st 9 am – 5 pm June 1 st 10 am – 4 pm	North Idaho Mineral Club Kootenai County Fairgrounds, Jacklin Building #25 4056 North Government Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID	Annual show \$5 ages 13 and over ages 12 and under are free with an adult
August 10 th 10 am – 4 pm	Fraser Valley Rock and Gem Club Aldergrove Legion 26607 Fraser Hwy, Aldergrove, BC	Annual tailgate
August 20 th and 21 st 10 am – 4 pm	Fraser Valley Rock and Gem Club Aldergrove Kinsmen Community Center, Aldergrove, BC	Annual show

SawStart saws

Next time you see one of our Shop Stewards, please thank them for not installing the SawStart brand of saws in our Lapidary Shop.

This comic is republished from [XKCD](#) under the license, [CC BY-NC 2.5](#).



Washington State Mineral Council

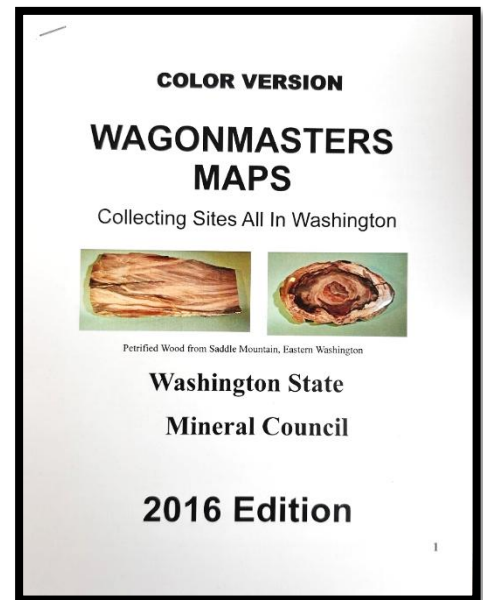
Our club, along with many other rock and gem clubs in the state, is a member of the Washington State Mineral Council. This organization helps us by

- 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>. We email their newsletter to our members each month.

About Us

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 need to cancel your reservation. Each Thursday and the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays we have two shop sessions available:

- Session 1: from 3:00 to 5:30 pm
- Session 2: from 5:30 to 8:00 pm

How to cancel

If you sign up for shop time online and later realize you won't be able to make it, you need to cancel your reservation no later than two days before the session. So, if you are cancelling a Thursday time, you need to cancel by Tuesday at midnight. 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.

What to bring

You need to bring \$10 (cash or check) to pay for the session. Additionally, please bring these:

- Eye 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
Scott Higson

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: Angela Vitense

Vice President: open

Treasurer: Lisa Rammell

Secretary: Raven Thompson-Happy

Members at large: Paul Newby, Nathan O'Brien, Crister Sausler, and Michele McGraw.

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

News to share?

Did you go rockhounding? Have you acquired a beautiful new specimen? Contact Nancy Samuels, the Editor at MRGC@nancysamuels.com.

This issue

Maplewood Rock and Gem Club News

Volume 4

Publication year: 74