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### June meeting

#### Monday, June 16 at 7 pm – Outside!

What is in that enormous old container behind our building? The mystery is still unraveling. It's not too late to be one of the people discovering lost treasure on those dusty shelves.

Our members have been cleaning out the container for a week now. They've been putting the buckets and boxes of long-lost specimens inside the clubhouse for sorting. We greatly appreciate all the volunteers who have generously given their time to this project.

Please look at your schedule and find a time when you can help out. At the meeting you will have a chance to sign up.

Our June meeting will be held outside. Currently, the weather experts are predicting a high of 68 and very light breezes on Monday, so you might want to bring a jacket.

We will have a silent auction and Show and Tell as usual. If your last name begins with N - Z, please bring snacks to share.

## The Great Container Refresh

### Making Progress!



We've hit pay dirt (literally, with a ton of rock!) during our great June container clean out. With the incredible help of a few key volunteers, we've successfully pulled out every last bucket and have spent the past week sorting through pounds and pounds of rocks.



While we initially hoped to finish by June 15th, we've decided to extend our clean-out efforts through Saturday, June 21st. This gives us a bit more breathing room to get everything sorted and inventoried properly.



We could really use your help to finish strong! If you can lend a hand, we are offering \$5 credit for every hour volunteered. Please join us at the Clubhouse during these times:

- Saturday, June 14 & Sunday, June 15: 10 am - 6 pm
- Monday, June 16, Wednesday, June 18, & Thursday, June 19: 10 am - 2 pm
- Saturday, June 21: 10 am - 6 pm



Most of the materials we're sorting will be for sale at our August Show (August 16 & 17) or at the Darrington Jade Festival (August 1-3). We'll also have special Ways & Means sales at both our June and July meetings. If you have questions, text or call Crister. His phone number is included in the email that brought you this newsletter issue.

## Juniors

By Amaryah Daniels



The Juniors learned about Crystals in May-- different types, how they form, and the shapes they make. Big thanks to Crister Sausler for leading this topic. The Juniors enjoyed putting together 3D models of crystals, as well as making their own in the kitchen using alum powder. Thank you to



Paul Sherman for helping facilitate this activity. We shall see what grows over the course of the month!

This month, Mike Schmidt will be teaching the kids about Space Rocks! Meteorites, tektites, asteroids, and comets--there are so many cool rocks to explore outside of



our atmosphere! We are looking for additional specimens to show the kids for this topic, if you have any you can show,

Grayson Whitbeck, 5, will be displaying his rocks in the Juniors rock display this summer.

We have Juniors field trips in the works for the summer months.



## Angela Vitense - Our Club President!

Angela joined our club in 2024 and became an active volunteer supporting Ways and Means and Hospitality. In the Fall of 2024, she graciously took on the Vice President role, helping run our Board nominations, the November Showcase, the Holiday Gift Show and Member Potluck. In January, Angela took over the President's role and has been leading our club since.

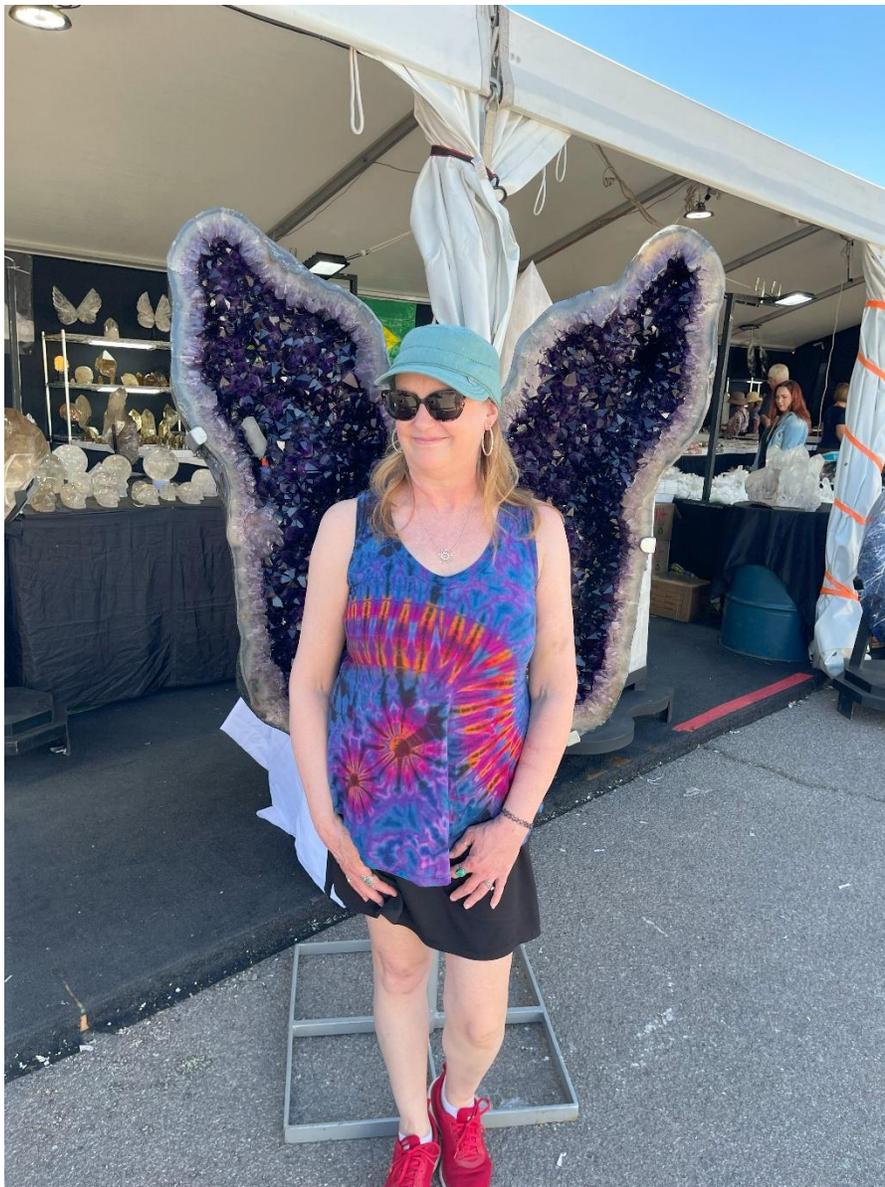


Growing up, Angela spent her school time in southern California and summers in South Carolina where her eclectic and bohemian style and gentle welcoming nature emerged. She moved to Seattle in the nineties and began her corporate career in the Store Development Department at Starbucks Coffee Company.

Angela is an experienced professional with over 20 years in program/project management, product development, sourcing, and manufacturing. She is known to build close working relationships with her teams and suppliers, with the goal of taking on a challenge and delivering beyond expectations.

Angela lives in her favorite place Edmonds, Washington. She is married to a Wisconsin guy and has two college aged sons. Angela loves traveling to see her diverse group of family and friends throughout the world, rock hounding, gardening, silly pet videos, finding new recipes, music and most of all spending time with her family and her two beloved Doodle dogs, Sadie and Olive.

Angela goes to the Tucson Rock and Gem show every year, and her favorite stones are Thunder Bay Amethyst (Hematite Amethyst), Petrified Wood, Amethyst, and Malachite.



## Jade Festival



**By Austin Moya, Hounds of the Rock Table**

Hounds of the Rock Table, is proud to be collaborating with Maplewood Rock and Gem Club and Marysville Rock and Gem Club, to present the first ever Darrington Jade Festival!

This three-day festivity is open to the public, with free admission. Taking place at The Darrington Community Center, August 1st-3rd, this event brings together Jade miners, experts, collectors, artists, and other enthusiasts, for Washington's premier celebration of Jade Culture. Discover the wonders of Washington's own Nephrite and Jadeite, other PNW Jade materials, and Jade from around the world!

Darrington Jade Festival features:

- A cultural exhibition of Jade art, history, carvings, artifacts, and examples of low environmental mining practices used by local miners
- 25+ Vendors offering handmade Jade jewelry, carvings, specimens, slabs, rough materials, and much more!
- Local Jade experts sharing their knowledge of this marvel of nature
- Electroforming, lapidary and carving demonstrations
- Local food and live music
- Jade Hunting maps of the Darrington area





For more info, and to see our roster of vendors, visit [www.darringtonjadefestival.com](http://www.darringtonjadefestival.com), join our [Facebook](#) group, or follow [@darringtonjadefestival](#) on Instagram.

To contact us about vending or volunteering email us at <mailto:darringtonjadefestival@gmail.com>  
All volunteers receive a complimentary T-shirt!



## Geologic Wonders in Southern Utah

By Jim Miller

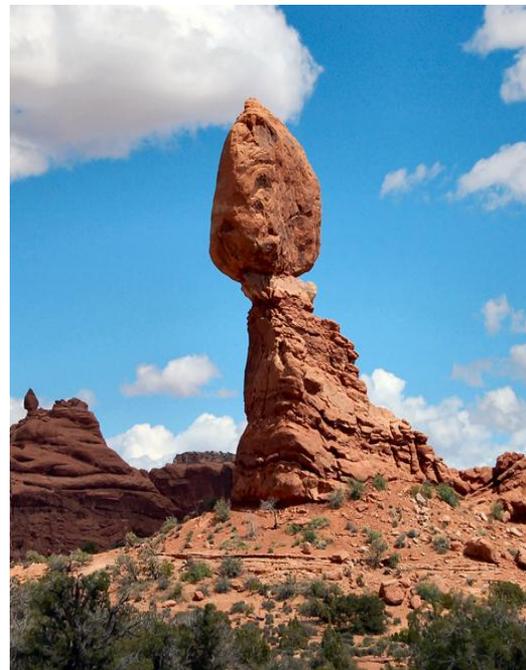
With five amazing national parks and additional state parks, the opportunities are endless for roaming in the spectacular scenery of southern Utah. And southward lies the vastness of the Grand Canyon and Monument Valley. The rock formations and vistas in the region are enough to make a geologist giddy.

I have visited southern Utah several times over the past 50 years. Despite my previous explorations of the area, I have barely begun to explore this region of colorful rocks and rugged beauty. I keep returning because there is simply too much to see and do in a week or two.

Layers of sedimentary sandstone and mudstone dominate the geology of southern Utah. The sedimentary rocks accumulated over millions of years in a large subsiding basin. Then forces in the earth changed and began to lift the ground surface to create the Colorado Plateau, with elevations in excess of 8,000 feet above present sea level. The uplift caused warping of the sedimentary rock layers and initiated river and wind erosion that continues to this day. The resulting deep canyons offer glimpses of the variety of rock units that make the region famous. The photo below shows how some of the rock units have been tilted and folded by geologic forces. The harder and more durable rock layers stand up as hogbacks, while softer units form valleys between the hogbacks.



Arches National Park is perhaps my favorite destination in southern Utah. Arches NP is relatively small in comparison to nearby Canyonlands National Park. But the geologic formations and opportunities for up-close exploration of Arches' wonders are fabulous. The following four photos show some of my favorite vistas in Arches National Park, including iconic Balanced Rock and Delicate Arch.





Speaking of Canyonlands National Park, its vastness takes your breath away. Vistas like the ones below display the huge volume of sedimentary rock that has been eroded away over millions of years.





Canyonlands offers an amazing assortment of hiking trails for exploration. I took a short hike on a little-used trail and was surprised to find seams of beautiful red jasper eroding from one of the sandstone layers (see below). Of course, this is a national park, so collecting was not an option. Photos have to suffice.



The Horseshoe Canyon district of Canyonlands NP has even more to offer. A four-mile hike brings you to an amazing assortment of ancient Native American pictographs (rock paintings) that are tucked under massive overhanging sandstone walls. These life-size artistic treasures (see below) are carefully protected by the National Park Service.



Each of the national parks in southern Utah offers its own unique character, although colorful rock formations frame each location. The following two photos are of Bryce National Park in the springtime.





Not to be outdone, Capitol Reef National Park has its own wonders, such as Hickman Natural Bridge (see below).



The Cathedral Valley section of Capitol Reef NP displays colorful sedimentary rocks as well as volcanic rocks and unique mineral exposures. Layers of multi-colored mudstone catch your eye as you enter the Cathedral Valley area (see below). Some of the mudstone layers contain petrified logs.



The upper Cathedral Valley holds yet another rock wonder. A mound of strange, translucent, inter-grown crystals seems out of place between two natural stone pyramids (see below). This interesting mound is the summit of a gypsum dome. When buried deeply enough, layers of salt and gypsum become somewhat plastic and can slowly migrate upward through overlying (heavier) rock layers. The clear piece of gypsum (selenite) in the photo on the right is from one of the crystals in the gypsum dome. Again, no collecting allowed in the park.



Sedimentary rocks form most of the rock formations in southern Utah. However, volcanic rocks are also present in parts of Capitol Reef NP and the Cathedral Valley. The image below shows black ribbons of basaltic lava that squeezed between sedimentary rock layers and formed a cap on the distant mesa.



Southern Utah is so interesting! Vistas like the ones below seem to emerge around every bend in the road. The scenes change with season, cloud cover, and time of day. So the same location may look very different when you visit an area multiple times. If you have never visited amazing southern Utah, do so!



## 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.

## Rock Candy



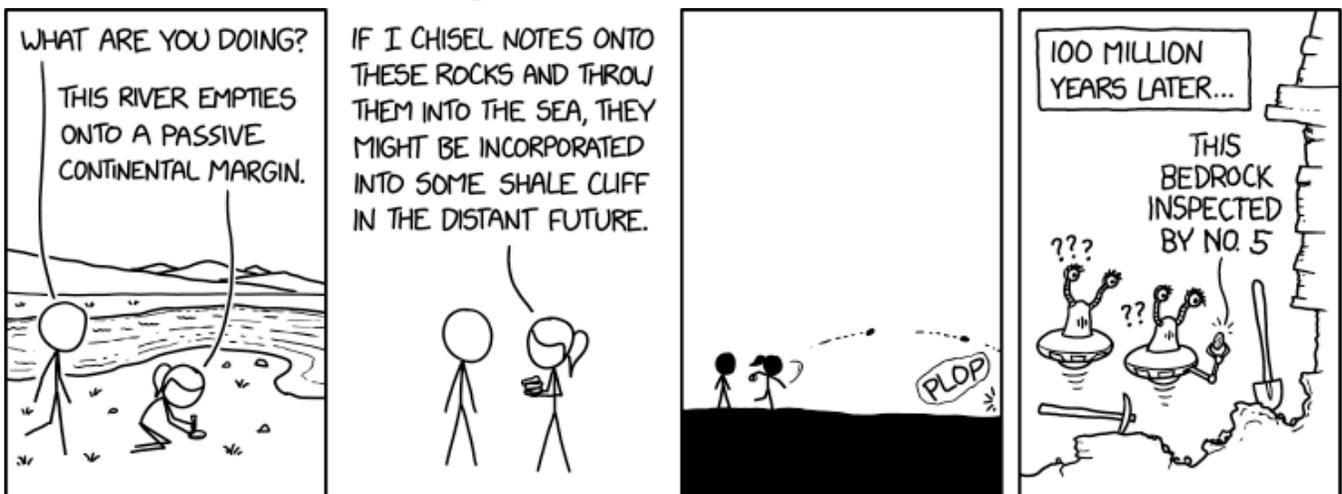
*Bryce National Park; photo by Nancy Samuels*

## 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
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.

## XKCD Comic – Deposition



XKCD Comic by Randall Munroe; ["Deposition"](#); [CC BY-NC 2.5](#)

To rockhounds born in June

## Happy Birthday!



Photos of Alexandrite by David Weinberg for [Alexandrite.net](http://Alexandrite.net).  
[CC BY-SA 3.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/).

Your birthstones are Alexandrite, Moonstone, and Pearl. The two photos of an alexandrite gem above illustrate the *Alexandrite Effect*. The image on the left shows the emerald green color you see in daylight, and on the right is its reddish purple appearance in candle light or similar warm wavelengths.

Other minerals that can exhibit an alexandrite effect include fluorite, sapphire, spinel, garnet, and tourmaline.



Moonstone with adularescence (shiller); from Minas Gerais, Brazil; 23mm diameter; by [Didier Descouens](http://DidierDescouens.com);  
[CC BY-SA 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/)

## 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	<a href="mailto:wilcox.don@comcast.net">wilcox.don@comcast.net</a>
Marysville Club	Nique Wicks	<a href="mailto:nwhoppyfrog41@gmail.com">nwhoppyfrog41@gmail.com</a> (509) 670-0630
Pow Wow	Larry Vess	<a href="mailto:vessel3755@gmail.com">vessel3755@gmail.com</a> (253)473-3908
Puyallup Club	Nate White	<a href="mailto:nate.white77@gmail.com">nate.white77@gmail.com</a> (206)349-7054
Washington State Mineral Council	Ed Lehman	<a href="mailto:wsmced2@outlook.com">wsmced2@outlook.com</a> (425) 334-6282
	Nique Wicks (contact information is above)	

## Trips and shows

Date and Time	Host and Location	Details
June 21 <sup>st</sup> 9 am	Washington State Mineral Council Saddle Mountains site Meet at Harvest Foods in Mattawa, WA	Search for petrified wood and opal. Bring tools for digging, breaking light hard rock, and surface picking
July 26 <sup>th</sup> 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

Date and Time	Host and Location	Details
August 8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> 10 am – 5 pm 10 <sup>th</sup> 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
Aug. 16 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 10 am – 5 pm 17 <sup>th</sup> 10 am – 4 pm	NW Stone Sculptors Association Evergreen Arboretum, Everett, WA	Fresh Paint 2025 Everett Arboretum Sculpture Walk <a href="https://www.schack.org/fresh-paint">https://www.schack.org/fresh-paint</a>
Sept. 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> d 10 am	Puyallup Club Little Naches site Meet at the intersection of Hwy 410 and FR 92	Search for thunder eggs, fossils, lily pad jasper. Bring a shovel and small bar
Sept. 27 <sup>th</sup> and 28 <sup>th</sup>	NW Stone Sculptors Association Kubota Garden, Seattle, WA	Kubota Garden Sculpture Show and Sale
Oct. 1 <sup>st</sup> 9 am	Marysville Club Meet at Index, WA	Search for picture jasper. Bring a rock hammer.
Nov. 8 <sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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

Gallon of oil for \$20

### 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
August 10 <sup>th</sup> 10 am – 4 pm	Fraser Valley Rock and Gem Club Aldergrove Legion 26607 Fraser Hwy, Aldergrove, BC	Annual tailgate
August 20 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> 10 am – 4 pm	Fraser Valley Rock and Gem Club Aldergrove Kinsmen Community Center, Aldergrove, BC	Annual show

## Washington State Mineral Council

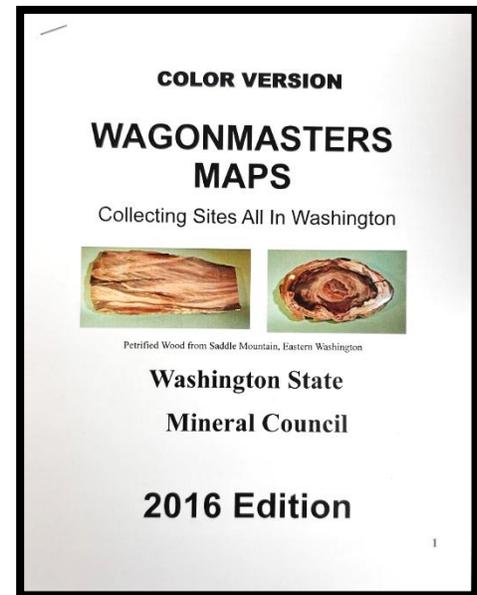
Our club, along with many other rock and gem clubs in the state, is a member of the Washington State Mineral Council. This organization helps us by

- 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:MRGC@nancysamuels.com).

### This issue

Maplewood Rock and Gem Club News

Volume 6

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