



East King Co Rock Club

May 2010 Newsletter

MAY MEETING

- Location:** Juanita Community Club
13027 - 100th Ave. NE, Kirkland, WA 98034
- Time:** Friday, May 21, 2010. 7:00 p.m.
- Junior Program:** Clam concretion fossils. The Junior Program starts at 7:00 p.m.
- Adult Program:** Soapstone Carving. Bring carving tools or scribes if you have them. We will have plastic silverware knives and nails. Adult program starts at 7:30 p.m.
- Rock of the Month:** Bring your favorite soapstone or fossil.

NEWS AND MINUTES

GENERAL NEWS

As of May 6th, 2010: Due to forestry activity in and around the Green Mountain area, ALL of the Kalama Rock Hound area is closed. See the Bellevue Rock Club web site for more information:

www.bellevuerockclub.org/kalamarules.html

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: APRIL 16, 2010

April Meeting – held on April 16th @ 7:30 at Juanita Community Club.

The meeting started with the report from the March show. Good news we did great and we are out of the red. We discussed show fees and what we will be charging vendors for the following year. Next year we will be charging \$13.50 per foot, and we will not need to buy any electrical supplies. We also plan on having the vendors supply their own tables to help save more money and make up for the continued price increase on show fees over the past few years.

We talked about the future field trip in May to get Rhodonite at Mt Higgins in Mt Vernon, on Timberland property. This will be a great field trip and will be discussed more at the next meeting. N. Seattle is having a field trip on May 2nd to Saddle Mountain for petrified wood.

The club is checking a price list with Scotts Rock & Gem for pyrite etc to sell @ shows for club purchases.

The rest of the meeting was conducted by John Meek our guest speaker. He gave out fliers and talked in great depth about collection minerals and localities. He talked about ways to use the internet to look up minerals on www.mindat.org and various websites for finding good shows, clubs, dig spots etc. He also talked about rock books, local and out of state rock hounding. He had a lot of useful information and had taken quite a lot of time researching and gathering information for all of us. John Meek let us know about Bob Jackson's crystal kid's tours and some other adventures for young and old.

This meeting was very well attended with lots of guests checking out the club; hopefully this will lead to new members. After the meeting was over many members shared their Washington minerals that they had brought. A lot of people also brought the fabulous finds from the last field trip, lots of great carnelians, agates and such.

We closed out the meeting with the finalization of the raffles, auctions and the door prize winners.

We enjoyed snacks at the end of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned approx. at 9:30pm

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Lewis, Secretary

BOARD MEETING MINUTES: MAY 2, 2010

May board Meeting- held on May 2nd @ 7:40 at Sharon's home.

Attending the meeting were- Norma, Kevin, Rachael, Sharon, Evan, Kim. We opened up the meeting discussing the profits of the March show, and it was noted that a few more expenses will be added to the total, so the total profit will be less than previously reported.

We went over the new adult member applications that we have received in the last few months. Pete, Eva, Ken, Eugene, Elizabeth, Veda, Jack, Alan, Heather, David, Joel, Sixto, Shannon and Cynthia all of them were voted into the club.

The upcoming May meeting was discussed in length, we talked about different ideas of what our program should be. We all finally agreed upon carving soapstone. The club has some soapstone carving kits, enough for everyone. It will be a good hands-on project for the group. Our main concern was to have a hands-on project, since the last few meetings have had demonstrators. The kids program will be to break open the clam concretions and get the fossils out.

The stone of the month will be soapstone or a fossil. We also talked about how we need more things for the auctions and raffles, along with better quality of prizes to draw in more people and keep them coming to the meetings. Members should also be donating some stones for the cause. We talked about making an order with Scott's Rocks for better club prizes and such. We also had requests for more fossils at the game that you chip rocks out of wax. Pyrite, fossils, and possible bookends were discussed as things that we should purchase. Earthlight also offered to let the club go in on an order if needed. So the club has some options and the members will need to decide what to order and who has the most to offer that the club wants to get.

The next field trip will be May 23rd (Sunday) for Rhodonite @ Mt. Higgins we will need to pick a meeting spot & time for that day. We will need to bring a hammer, chisel and a pick for that dig as it is hard rock. We also are trying to arrange a trip to get Ellensburg Blue on the 29th of May, Kim with Earthlight is calling a couple that has a 160-200 acre ranch to roam for \$5.00 a day per person. The only down side is no digging, only a small hand rake is allowed.

Next we discussed the June meeting and what the program should be, we all agreed that foil wrapping agate slabs would be a good hands-on technique that everyone could participate in. For the kids meeting we will have a treasure hunt, with a fun bunch of prizes at the end.

Kim will bring a variety of stones to the May meeting, so that we can prepare for the June treasure hunt at the end of the May meeting (writing out the clues and missed clues) after everyone else has gone. We wanted to make sure this was a fun meeting since we will have the summer off for the most part.

A field trip was also discussed to the Scratch Patch in Seattle for June 12th (Saturday) or June 13th (Sunday), around 1:00 or 2:00 – we will let everyone vote on it at the May meeting to see how many people are interested in it and what days everyone would want to go. If we get more than 14 people to go we get a price break.

Jack was in town (the old signee on the old bank acct) and was able to go to the bank with Norma, but the bank was closed, they were able to withdrawal the amount from savings and Elizabeth will be depositing it into the regular rock club acct. The amount in checking is still there, but it is fine, since the club can still write checks on that acct. So that should solve any banking issues.

We discussed the fact that we have a new field trip site- the Crab balls; the club did a exchange and got a new location for a dig. Spring is the best time to go, as the ground will be softer so this will need to be done at a different time, next year possible

Norma & Kevin will be leaving on a camping – Rock hounding venture from the 1st of July – July 16th. Anyone is welcome to come along if they have the means to. They will be going to Utah along with other locations, ending at Wenatchee – Heather Lake to get Garnets, Soapstone and Actinolite on July 17th for the club’s field trip.

The July & August meetings are closed for the Summer, but we did discuss having a summer cutting and potluck party in August some time, but we still need to come up with a day.

September will be for officer nominations and Rock Bingo.

October will be final Elections and the topic for the program is still open.

November will be the Charity Auctions.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Lewis, Secretary

MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

CRYSTALS IN THE ROUGH: KIM LEWIS



This is what I started with, a whole box with a bushel of Dirty Quartz Crystals from Arkansas. I ordered an entire bushel, it came in this large garbage bag in a large box, I will be pulling out trays of crystals for awhile to clean.



This is going to take weeks and weeks of cleaning if the weather stays good. All I plan on using is a toothbrush and water.



Up close of some of the crystals.



See the side by side view before & after 1/2 of the tray is cleaned. This took hours the rest will have to wait until next weekend.



Lots more to go, but here are some of the cleaned crystals.



Here is some more of the finished crystals after scrubbing with a toothbrush and water for hours I think these turned out pretty clean. I probably won't even need to do the soak in the acid wash, as most people do. But of course this will take a lot more work than just soaking in the acid wash for a week.

I like the feel and satisfaction you get when you clean the crystals yourself.

SNEAK PEEK AT MINERAL MARKET SHOW IN SEATTLE: KIM LEWIS

Here is a sneak peak at a few things I will be bringing to the Mineral Market Show in Seattle at Lake City Center on May 22nd. I have information this show on my website. www.earthlightgems.com

I will have two tables and a lot of things as back stock to fill in as things sell. This is a "don't miss show." I will be waiting to bring these items into the shop until after the show, so don't miss out. A lot of the things I am bringing are one-of-a-kind items, and I may not ever see them again.



Youngite with druzy, Barite ball, Marcasite stalactite.



This Marcasite stalactite, is very long, the longest I have ever seen.



This is a very large polished free form Labradorite, it has a gorgeous blue flash.



Ok this picture does not do this justice it is a gorgeous huge cluster of green Fluorite.



Fabulous Amethyst crystal cluster with a carved stand made to fit.



This is an up close picture of the large Barite ball, so cool.



This picture has some more Marcasite stalactites, a fabulous druzy cluster, and some Aquamarine specimens with Muscovite.



This is a huge slab of polished specular Hematite, along with a blue cluster of Fluorite.



OK, so I love this Rhodocrosite free form polished dish, so beautiful. I also have a very nice smoky Quartz and a gorgeous Stibnite.



This picture has a fabulous smoky scepter, Lapis, druzy cluster, pink/purple Fluorite, and a sample of one of the Spinel pieces I am bringing.

ROCKHOUNDING IN CANADA: NORMA KICKERT

Ever think of going rockhounding in Canada? Jack Donner and I went several years ago to Harrison Lake in BC. We had a ball. We got a little culture shock then got to go dig bacculites and some bivalves, then went to a claim that had ammonites. Sweet! Our Canadian rockhound friends were a lot of fun and it was a trip we won't ever forget. Check out the opportunities listed on the BC Wagonmasters website www.lapidary.bc.ca/trips.html

- **Field Trip: Whistler**

Leader: Cam Bacon, Ken McMath
 Date & Time: June 13th, 9:00 A.M.
 Meeting Place: Squamish A & W
 Material: quartz crystals
 Tools Needed: sledge, chisels, hammer, rake
 Road Conditions: good gravel
 Contact: Cam Bacon 604-854-1711
 or Ken McMath 604-870-0467

- **Field Trip: Princeton**

Leader: Cam Bacon
 Date & Time: Sunday, June 6. 2010
 Meeting Place: Princeton A&W, leave the A&W at 9AM
 Material: amber (fluoresces blue)
 Contact: Cam Bacon 604-854-1711

- **Field Trip: Hill 60, just north of Duncan on Vancouver Island**

Leaders: Bob and De Morgan
 Date & Time: September 19th, 10:00 A.M.
 Meeting Place: park & ride, 1 block on the road to Youbou, intersection: Hwy 18 and # 1 Highway, (If you are going north, the Esso Station is on the right side, you turn left)
 Material: rhodonite
 Tools Needed: hammer, chisel, sledge
 Road Conditions: 4x4, AND HIGH CLEARANCE are absolutely necessary, or you will not make it up the hill!
 The road is trenched and the bushes are growing in.

Contact: Bob or De Morgan 604-599-6938

As always, any US rockhounds in good standing with their clubs are invited to join our field trips! Also, please see what the Washington State Mineral Council has for trips, just in case something interests you!

THE HAM: NORMA KIKKERT

Here are pictures of the large Carnelian the Rust's found on our last Kalama trip. They named it "The Ham," and cut it open to see inside.

Norma





CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

Club members are *encouraged* to send in photos and reports of recent activities and projects for the web site and newsletter!

EAST KINGCO CONTACT INFO

General Club Email: eastkingco@gmail.com
Newsletter and Web Site editor: Bruce Kelley, bruce.kelley@gmail.com
Club Website: www.eastkingco.org
Meetings: Our meetings are held the 3rd Friday of the month except July, August and December, at:
Juanita Community Club
13027 - 100th Ave NE
Kirkland, WA 98034

UPCOMING SHOWS AND FIELD TRIPS

See www.mineralcouncil.org or the club website for more details.

SHOWS

- **May 22, 2010 – Seattle Mineral Market #3**
“More Mineral Specimen Dealers Per Square Foot Than Any Show!”
Saturday, May 22, 2010 – 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.
Lake City Community Center
12531 – 28th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA
www.cannonmicroprobe.com/test.htm
- **June 4-6, 2010 – Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club**
Puyallup Valley Gem Show
Fruitland Grange
112th St & 86th Ave. East, Puyallup, WA

FIELD TRIPS

- **May 23, 2010 – Mt. Higgins**
Rhodonite – Hard rock tools, tough tires
Sponsor: Washington Agate and Mineral Club
9:00 a.m. @ Oso gas store
- **June 12/13, 2010 – First Creek**
Thundereggs, Agate and Geodes – Dig and hard rock tools
Sponsor: Ellensburg Rock club
9:00 a.m. @ West Fork Teanaway Camp
- **June 30 – July 4, 2010 – Madras, OR**
Agate, Jasper, Petrified Wood, Thundereggs – Dig and light hard rock tools
Sponsor: Pow Wow Rockhounds Club
8:00 a.m. @ Jefferson Co. (OR) Fairgrounds
- **July 1-18, 2010 – Utah**
Sponsor: Informal trip with Norma and Kevin

- **July 17, 2010 – Wenatchee area**
Garnets and Actinolite
Sponsor: East KingCo Rock Club