



East KingCo Rock Club

January 2011 Newsletter

OCTOBER MEETING

- Location:** Juanita Community Club
13027 - 100th Ave. NE, Kirkland, WA 98034
- When:** Friday, January 21, 2011. 7:00 p.m.
- Junior Program:** Micro-minerals - rocks are really cool under a microscope! Bruce will bring that Blue Pentagonite that was featured in December's newsletter. Bring a rock you think might look interesting under a microscope. Or, better yet, one you think *won't* look interesting. You might be surprised!
- Regular Program:** We will be making and laminating club name tags. Bring rock magazines that we can cut pictures out of to decorate them if you like. There will be pens, colored pencils, some fun rubber stamps, stickers, and hopefully some pictures! If there is something special you would like to bring, or think would be helpful—please feel free. The area to decorate is roughly 2.25 by 4.5 inches. The adult meeting starts at 7:30.

NEWS AND MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: DECEMBER 17, 2010

December Meeting- held on December 17th @ 7:00 at Juanita Community Club. This was the yearly Christmas/Holiday Party. Everyone brought food for the potluck and it was fabulous with many options from Pizza to Sweet Potatoes Mashed to Cheesecake and everything else you can think of. We started out the meeting with everyone mingling and eating. Then we made mosaic ceramic trivets, this was a lot of fun and a special thanks is owed to Sharon, for helping finish most of these up for everyone. We made these by gluing glass, stones and other decorative pieces onto blank white tiles in various shapes. Then a grout mix was added between them to finish them off, Sharon did most of this dirty work for us while we mingled.

After the project we moved onto the main event which was the White Elephant gift exchange. Everyone who wanted to participate – which I think was everyone, brought a wrapped gift value of approximate \$10.00 with a rock related theme, and set it on a centralized table. We all drew a number out of a bowl and that was the order that we went in. I think most are familiar with this game. The person that got number one picked a present; the next person could steal or pick a present. A present was deemed dead (not able to steal) after it was stolen twice, and it went on like this thru all the numbers. When it was done number one could also choose to steal or keep their original present. Let's just say we had a lot of stealing going on and a lot of laughter. This was a wonderful night with many surprises. We all left with great gifts, full tummies and a smile on our faces.

The meeting/Party adjourned approx. at 9:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Lewis, Secretary

BOARD MEETING MINUTES: JANUARY 9, 2011

January board Meeting- held on January 9th @ 7:30 at Sharon's home.

We discussed the kids program for the next meeting on the 21st. The kids program would be micro mini mounts viewed through microscopes that the club will provide. The adults might want to look at these also it sounds like fun. The adult meeting will be the club planning the March Rock & Gem Show that the club puts on, the project we will be doing will be laminating the name tags for the club members.

Norma is going to email Rose Mae in Bellingham who has a private rock shop/museum to see if she is up to us having another field trip to her place. We also discussed other field trip options, it is too cold for digging right now, and the ground is still frozen so we talked about other options. We thought about a field trip to the Rice museum, or to Chuck Pettis's Whidbey Island sanctuary, which also is near some great beaches for beach combing.

We talked about the upcoming shows and several of the dealers dropped out for various reasons. Luckily we have a waiting list and others that have wanted in the show in the past have been contacted. We will be having some new vendors in the show, and it will turn out great as usual. We paid the total for the show \$3290.00 which is pretty expensive for the weekend, but we helped make up for the extra cost by not renting so many tables, since it is not included in the fee for the vendors. If a vendor needs tables they pay an extra fee for us to rent out the tables.

We discussed flyers being sent to the local schools and neighborhoods. Maureen is in charge of sending flyers to the local schools. On the last weekend of Jan, the flyers will be at the Issaquah location. Also Bruce is planning on making signs and posters for car advertisements.

We talked about a professional banner being made; Norma talked with a print shop in Woodinville that had a pretty good deal. It will be a 7' x 4' banner with the information on the show. It will be hung along the fence by the Pickering barn a week in advance for advertising.

Discussion of the games that we will have at the show was next on our talks. We plan on having some of the same games, the oat bog and the coin drop. We added some games we have not had in a while, the fossil dig and making hemp bracelets with stones on them. We want the games to stay in the range from \$1.00 to \$2.00 on average. The hemp bracelets lead us to a project for the February kids program. We will need to make cut wire, make a loop on one end, so that people can string the stone beads they want to add to the hemp bracelet. We also may need to work on the hemp bracelets during the meeting. We will discuss this more at the next meeting.

Another topic we need to discuss is who wants to set up display cases in the March show. We need to get people to sign up to make a case. Along with the need for everyone to volunteer at least 4 hours minimum at the show, this will help make it a success. Set up is on Friday the 4th, the show is Saturday the 5th and Sunday the 6th. We will need people to help coordinate the pickup of rocks and cases the week before so that they will be ready for the show.

If anyone has photos from field trips of the past please either email them to the club or bring a printed out copy to the next meeting. We are trying to update the field trip and club photo albums that are pretty out dated and on display at the shows every year. We also need to update the youth story board with new pictures.

The club is seeking a person to be the next show chairman; Norma has had this task for the past 12 years and needs a change. Hopefully since the club membership has grown, we can find someone that wants to train under Norma and learn what needs to be done. It is not hard, just time consuming when it is show time.

The club also is planning on selling a huge Citrine that it has and is tired of lugging it around every year to the March show. We plan on selling it for approx. \$500.00 or so, we will be discussing this also. The catering for the March show has also not been finalized, but we have a couple of potential catering options.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Lewis, Secretary

MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

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

RED TOP FIELD TRIP, 9-19-2010: SHANNON HEASLETT

Sunday morning field trip to Red Top Mountain, over by Cle Elum, WA, just off highway 97 heading north to Blewett Pass. We took the first left just past Mineral Resort onto a Forest Service dirt road. Note once you get onto this dirt road you should have your Northwest Forest Pass in your vehicle, especially when you park and leave your vehicle at the trail head, which is about 7 miles up this dirt road that is maintained in part by our Northwest Forest Pass money.

We all met at the trailhead in the AM in a misty rain, took some photo's on Shannon's truck then loaded ourselves up like pack mules and headed up the 2-mile trail to the agate beds digging area. From there, we headed off to our secret locations. As it turned out Shannon and Sixto's locations were in the same spot. So much for secret locations? Oh well!

As you can see by the photos, Kevin and Norma had a good pile of thunder eggs and agate geodes piling up. After a few hours of digging in the dirt and a few more photos we followed Kevin & Norma out of the woods and onto an exposed cliff side where they pulled out their hard rock tools (hammer and chisels) and proceeded to hammer and pick away in the solid rock cliff face, where after about 15 minutes they found a couple nice sized thunder eggs, and just in time as the wind was starting to gust and bring some pretty dark rain clouds over head Kevin got the last thunder egg out of the ground as a crack of thunder and lightning hit somewhere on the hill top we were on. As Norma posed with the thunder egg she was looking down because the hail was coming down sideways from the gusty winds and beating us in the face on the hill side we were on. We all grabbed our coats and gear and headed for the trail down to the vehicles, because the trail was in some dense trees and we could get a little protection from the wind, rain, hail and thunder. I guess Kevin must have pissed off the local spirits pulling the thunder egg out of that hillside.

The digging areas are located at about the 5077 foot elevation.

Note: From the top of Red Top Mountain to my house in Redmond, WA it takes about 2 to 2 1/2 hours to get home depending on traffic on I-90 over Snoqualmie Pass.

Another good trip taken by the rock club! You can see by the photo of Shannon standing on the ridge top that is low cloud's blowing up over the ridge.

A good time was had by all.







GLEANINGS: CONTENT FROM OTHER CLUBS

A SHORT ESSAY ON GOLD: ART SMITH, HOUSTON GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

Gold is almost indestructible, and because of its value it has been recycled through the centuries. It is estimated that 85% of all the gold found is still in use. Decorative gold objects found in Bulgaria date back to the Stone Age—about 4000 B.C.—and it is believed to be the first metal worked by prehistoric man.

Gold is extremely malleable and ductile. A one-ounce nugget can be beaten into a translucent sheet five-millionths of an inch thick and stretched out into a five-micrometer thick wire (one-tenth the diameter of a human hair) that is 50 miles long.

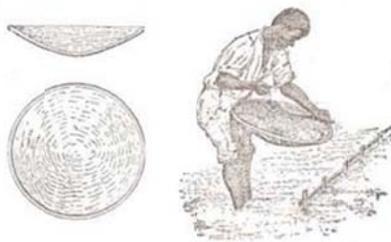


In the 7th century B.C., dentists in Italy used gold wire to attach fake teeth, but gold for fillings was not used until the 16th century. The Incan empire had the largest collection of gold ever amassed when the Spanish landed in Peru in 1532. The conquistadores stole most of it. *Teocuitlatl* is the Aztec word for gold, and it means “excrement of the Gods.”

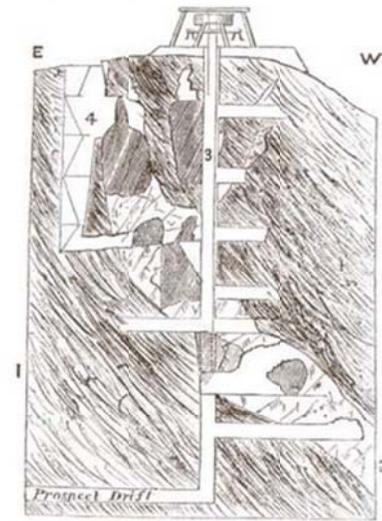
In 1799 the first significant gold was found in the United States. It was a 17-pound lump found by Conrad Reed on the Reed farm in North Carolina. It was used as a doorstep until a jeweler bought it for \$3.50. If it were pure gold, it would be worth almost \$900,000 today. The first United States gold mine was opened on the Reed Farm. The discovery of gold in North Carolina probably was the main cause of the unfair removal of the Cherokee Indians to Oklahoma.

The California Gold Rush was in 1849, followed shortly by rushes to Australia and British Columbia, Canada. The Colorado Gold Rush was in 1859. Leadville, Colorado boomed in 1879 for silver, but when silver prices fell, significant gold was produced. The Klondike Gold Rush in the Yukon Territory of Canada was in 1899. The last U.S. gold rush was to Goldfield, Nevada in 1910. There were many minor rushes in between. The most recent rush was to the Amazon rainforest in Brazil in the 1990s.

The Homestake mine at Lead in the Black Hills of South Dakota was mined for over a hundred years before closing in 2001. Gold was mostly mined from Precambrian metamorphic schists to depths below 8000 feet. The Witwatersrand area near Johannesburg, South Africa is a complex of gold mines that has been the world’s largest producer of gold. The gold is mined from what they call “reefs.” However these are actually a coarse sedimentary conglomerate that has been metamorphosed and the gold may have been deposited by ancient rivers. So as you can see, gold can occur in all types of rocks.



Mining Gold In Brazil in the late 1800s: *L'OR A MINAS GERAES BRÉSIL, M. P.* Ferrand 1894, Ouro Preto, Imprensa Oficial do Estado de Minas Geras.



—AURIFEROUS GOLD REEF, NEAR BALLARAT, WITH METHOD OF WORKING.

1, Granitic rock. 2, Quartz reef. 3, Shaft. 4, Shallow workings with ladders.

Gold Mine at Ballarat, Australia, 1800s: *A Treatise on Metalliferous Minerals and Mining*, D. C. Davies, 1881. London, Crosby Lockwood and Company

Today’s gold mining companies are not looking for the small rich quartz veins because generally they are not adaptable to modern mining methods. Instead they are looking for large tonnages of ore with a low but consistent amount of gold that can be worked with equipment that will remove a large tonnage of rock each day. The gold

may be completely invisible and occur in micron-size pieces disseminated through the rock. Unless there are rich stringers, high grading is not a problem. The Carlin Trend in Nevada is an area of such deposits that are being mined successfully now.

The United States has the largest gold hoard in the world, but if ornamental gold in the threads of Indian saris was counted, India with 20 percent of the world's decorative gold would have the most.

An estimated 10 billion tons of gold are dissolved in the earth's oceans, but there is no economical way to get it out. However the amount of gold that the Near spacecraft measured in the asteroid Eros in 1999 is more than has ever been mined on earth. We cannot get that gold either.



Reference:

Temescu, L.A. 2007. 20 things you didn't know about gold.
Discover 2007(December):80

Dragon photo from Gold! HMNS Press Kit
Houston Museum of Natural Science
Crystallized gold on matrix

Source:

The Backbender's Gazette, Houston Gem & Mineral Society, 8/2008
via SCRIBE

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 and August 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

- **February 26/27, 2011 – Everett Rock and Gem Club**
10 a.m. – 6(sat)/5(sun) pm
Washington National Guard Armory
2730 Oakes Ave.
Everett, WA
- **March 5/6, 2011 – East KingCo Rock Club**
10 a.m. – 6(sat)/5(sun) pm
Pickering Barn
1730 – 10th Ave. NW
Issaquah, WA