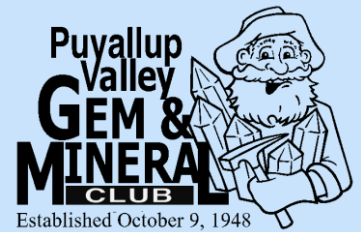


# ROCK-A-TEER



## Newsletter of the Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club

Jillian Higgins

Issue 50

Volume 103

March

2022

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## President's Perspective

Tony Johnson

A big thank you to everyone who has been volunteering for things at the Club Show. We are starting to get things together for that. We will keep putting out notices for areas we need volunteers. As of right now we need:

- Welcome Desk – message Patti Dailey-Shives
- Kitchen – message Jennifer Barnstein

All five slab saws are up and running at the club house. We have run all five saws running at the same time with no issues so the electrical updates are working and we are doing good. We have a new cleanout system for the saws so we just need to teach those who want to clean up how to use it.

We have our new club sign for at the Grange Hall. Huge thank you to Bob Ballou for donating the funds, and to Jan Nix for her impressive are work in cleating the sign.

# Field Trip Report

## **March 19 – Damon Point**

Meeting place - 10:00AM Damon Point Parking Lot

Hunting for – Beach Agate, Jasper, Pet Wood, Shells

Tools you need - Rock hammer, shovel, rubber boots, and a backpack/bucket for your treasures

Access - this area is fairly easy to access, will be walking on a beach

Additional items - lunch/snacks and water, water, water. Dress in layers

## **April 16 - Saddle Mountain**

Meeting place - 10:00AM at the Shell Station at 723 Government Way, Mattawa, WA

Hunting for - Petrified Wood

Tools you need - Shovel and Rockhammer and a backpack/bucket for your treasures

Access - this area is fairly easy to access, walking down 300 feet on a slight incline (more important for when you come back up)

Additional items - lunch/snacks and water, water, water. Dress in layers. After done, if there is interest, we can go to the diomaceous earth and common opal sight

Please remember that even though we love to meet new people, fieldtrips are a member benefit and part of your membership dues covers you for injury liability.

Though injuries are rare, and we do everything we can to avoid them, we are going out into nature, and uncontrollable environment.

All individuals attending field trips will have to sign a release of liability, and if you are bringing guests, we will try to entice them into join the club by having Membership applications available.

## MARCH 2022 CLUB HOUSE SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	INSTRUCTOR
1	Tuesday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Ed & Renera
2	Wednesday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Dennis Batchelor
		4:00PM-8:00PM	Wire Wrapping	Club House	Tony Johnson
3	Thursday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Tony Johnson
4	Friday				
5	Saturday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Glen Ripper
6	Sunday				
7	Monday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Glen Ripper
8	Tuesday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Ed & Renera
		7:00PM	Club Board Meeting	Fruitland Grange	Kevin Higgins
9	Wednesday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Dennis Batchelor
		4:00PM-8:00PM	Opal Cutting	Club House	Tony Johnson
10	Thursday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Tony Johnson
11	Friday	7:30PM	Club Business Meeting	Fruitland Grange	Tony Johnson
12	Saturday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Amber Carving	Club House	Jacob Hochstrasser
13	Sunday				
14	Monday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Glen Ripper
		7:00PM-8:00PM	Opal Club Business Meeting	Club House	Tony Johnson
15	Tuesday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Ed & Renera
16	Wednesday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Dennis Batchelor
		4:00PM-8:00PM	Wire Wrapping	Club House	Tony Johnson
17	Thursday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Tony Johnson
18	Friday				
19	Saturday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Glen Ripper
		10:00AM-2:00PM	Damon Point	Field Trip	Dennis Batchelor
20	Sunday				
21	Monday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Glen Ripper
22	Tuesday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Ed & Renera
23	Wednesday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Dennis Batchelor
		4:00PM-8:00PM	Opal Cutting	Club House	Tony Johnson
24	Thursday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Tony Johnson
25	Friday	7:30PM	Club Program Night	Fruitland Grange	Tony Johnson
26	Saturday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Gem Trees	Club House	Dana James
27	Sunday				
28	Monday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Glen Ripper
29	Tuesday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Ed & Renera
30	Wednesday	10:00AM-2:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Dennis Batchelor
		4:00PM-8:00PM	Wire Weaving	Club House	Jillian Higgins
31	Thursday	4:00PM-8:00PM	Members Workshop	Club House	Tony Johnson

**For questions about a specific class or event, contact the instructor**

Dennis Batchelor (360) 870-8741

Ed Knoll (253) 651-7453

Tony Johnson (253) 863-9238

Rennera Barnes rsb1224@netscape.com

Jillian Higgins (253)355-3146

Glen Ripper (253) 508-7545

**This schedule is subject to change. Please check the club website for updated information.**

# MEET THE MEMBERS

Name: Charmayne Tubig

Favorite Quote: Sometime the Lord calms the storm, other times He lets the storm rage and calms his child

What are your skills/past experience with the rock Club or rock hounding?

I grew up looking at the ground...lol. Always loved looking for the "prettiest" rock. I was given a Nevada wonder rock as a child and was always amazed at its beautiful colors (reds, yellows and multiple other shades). Wish I still had that stone but unfortunately left it at my parent house, never to be seen again.

As for the rock Club, I had visited the space needle at the Puyallup fair for years. I would envy the kids that could spin the wheel and pick a stone. A couple years ago I finally stopped and talked to Tony (before COVID), asking about the Nevada Wonder Rock...he pulled out a book and showed me one. I was hooked and couldn't wait to join the club. I had always wondered if that really was the name of that rock.

What is your favorite rock, mineral or gem?

Must I pick only one??? Agates are a given, as is the opal. Also thunder eggs...with their hidden treasures. I am amazed at the beauty we can bring out with cabbing, polishing, etc. of a stone.

What is your favorite thing to do with rocks, minerals or gems?

As a newbie I really love cabbing and seeing what emerges. Again, it brings out their beauty. I never thought I could cab and wire wrap such beautiful jewelry in such a short amount of time. I have gifted several of my pieces to friends and family and it's great to see the joy it brings them.

What are your three favorite books/podcasts?

- Gem Trails of Washington by Garret Romaine
- Washington & Oregon Rocks & Minerals by Dan R. Lynch & Bob Lynch
- Rocks, Minerals & Geology of the Pacific Northwest by Leslie Moclock & Jacob Selander

What is your favorite memory surrounding rockhounding/rocks in general?

I would say the hunt for the next treasure. I love all aspects of rockhounding, whether at the beach, mountains or rivers.

In your opinion, what is the best thing about the Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club?

I love how everyone is so generous with their knowledge and skills. Also, the patience they show with a newbie like me. Everyone has been so generous with sharing their finds and giving me other treasures to cab. The kindness they show is as precious as the stones and skills they share.

In your opinion, where/how does the club need to improve?

I really couldn't think of anything. I enjoy all aspects of the club.

What are three (3) things people might not know about you?

- I am a mother of two daughters, grandmother of three children.
- Celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in January (Hawaii was out because of COVID).
- Practiced as a periodontal dental hygienist for over 30 years.

I am enjoying my retirement learning new skills (rockhounding). I am scheduled for a thumb joint replacement in the end of February so I will not be able to cab or wire wrap for maybe up to 6 months.... but I still plan on going to the field trips (should be able to dig with one hand with the help of my husband). Can't wait for our next field trip!

# Mike and LaVon are having a rock sale!

March 25-27, 2022  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday  
From 9:00am - 5:00pm

Lots of treasures to be found. Agates, Jasper, Crystals, Faceable Materials, Yabbies (come find out what this is), Fossils, Slabs, Rough, Finished cabs, and a hole lot more.

## Pinolith

The black and white ornamental stone and gemstone.

Author: [Hobart M. King](#), PhD, GIA Graduate Gemologist



**Pinolith Cabochons:** These cabochons nicely display the black-and-white "pine nut" pattern that is characteristic of the material. The cab on the left measures 56 x 31 millimeters, and the cab on the right measures 50 x 26 millimeters.

### What Is Pinolith?

Pinolith, also known as pinolite, is a black and white [metamorphic rock](#) composed of [dolomite](#), [magnesite](#), and [graphite](#). It is a graphite-pigmented dolomitic marble [1] that contains small (mostly 5 to 15 millimeter) lath-

shaped crystals of white to yellowish brown magnesite. Pinolith is used as an ornamental stone and as a [gemstone](#).

### Table of Contents

- [What Is Pinolith?](#)
- [The Name Pinolith](#)
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- [Pinolith as a Gemstone](#)
- [Pinolith as an Ornamental Stone](#)
- [Other Uses of Pinolith](#)



**Pine Nuts** are small edible seeds from pine trees common to Europe and Asia. The white magnesite crystals in pinolith are thought to look like pine nuts. Image copyright iStockphoto / MahirAtes.



## The Name "Pinolith"

The magnesite crystals in pinolith are shaped like pine nuts from the European stone pine tree (*Pinus pinea*). Pine nuts are small edible seeds from pine trees common to [Europe](#) and [Asia](#). They are added to bread, salad, and meat or vegetable dishes. Additionally, the suffix *-lith* is from the Greek word *lithos*, or "stone". That is where the name "pinolith" is from.

When pinolith is examined with magnification, each "pine nut" is a single crystal composed of white magnesite, to sparry magnesite, to sparry magnesite heavily included with graphite.

## Geologic and Geographic Origin

Pinolith is a rare material found at a small number of deposits in [Austria](#) and northeastern [Spain](#). The most famous locality is at a magnesite deposit in the eastern Alps, near the community of Hohentauern, Austria.

There, metasomatism (a change in the composition of a body of rock caused by the intrusion of hot, reactive fluids) transformed [limestones](#) into magnesite and dolomite. Small amounts of pinolith and metallic ore [minerals](#) are present in these [rocks](#).



**Tumbled Pinolith:** Six tumbled stones made from pinolith. They show the typical color and "pine nut" pattern of this stone. Stones are about 3/4 inch across.

## Pinolith as a Gemstone

Small amounts of pinolith are used to make [cabochons](#), beads, spheres, [tumbled stones](#), and other small lapidary projects.

Pinolith requires a lot of skill to cut because it can be fragile and contains materials of varying

hardness and texture. Most pinolith has a [Mohs hardness](#) of only 4 to 4.5. Some is silicified and can have a hardness of up to Mohs 6 to 7.

Pinolith should be treated as a fragile stone. The magnesite crystals can easily cleave, and the rock is often soft and vulnerable to abrasion. It should be mounted in a protective setting and worn gently, or, it should be used in items such as pendants, pins and small sculptures that will not be subjected to abrasion and wear.



**St. Stephens Cathedral**, also known as Stephansdom, in Vienna. Pinolith was reportedly ordered for use in the construction of St. Stephen's Cathedral in 1641. Image copyright iStockphoto / MahirAtes.

## Pinolith as an Ornamental Stone

Pinolith is sometimes used as an ornamental or architectural stone. As early as 1641, it was

ordered for use in construction of St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna. [2] It was also used as an architectural stone in Admont Abbey (Stift Admont) and other churches in the region. [2]

### Pinolith Information

[1] [Pinolite](#): An article on the mindat.org website, accessed November 2020.

[2] [Magnesite Deposit, Sunk, Hohentauern, Murtal District, Styria, Austria](#): A page on the mindat.org website, accessed November 2020.

## Other Uses of Pinolith

Millions of tons of magnesite rock, including pinolith, from the Austrian deposits were used by the early iron and steel industry of Europe during the 1800s and 1900s.

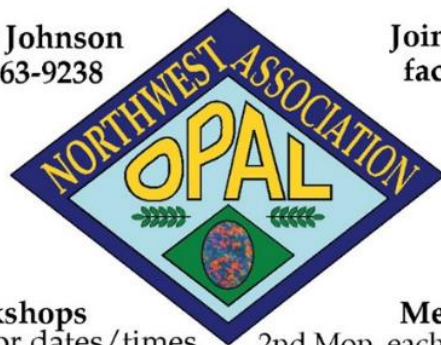
These rocks were mined mainly for their magnesium content. They were heated to produce magnesium oxide (MgO), which serves as a refractory material for the steel industry and as a raw material for the chemical industry.

[Crushed stone](#) from these deposits was also used in highways, railroad beds, and building construction.

During all of this mining, a small amount of pinolith was encountered. Pinolith was produced from isolated discoveries or as a byproduct of mining magnesite.

**Tony Johnson**  
253-863-9238

**Join us on  
facebook**



**Workshops**  
call for dates/times

**Meetings**  
2nd Mon. each month

## Field Trip Recap

Dennis Batchelor

We had no field trip in January and are not planning a field trip in February due to access concerns.

The Washington State Mineral Council is having field trips and you can find there scheduled on our website by clicking on Field Trips, scrolling all the way to the bottom of the page, and clicking on the [CLICK HERE](#) next to the WA State Mineral Council 2022 schedule.

## COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS



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[www.southhillrv.com](http://www.southhillrv.com)



### Rice Museum of Rocks & Minerals

To engage, inspire, and educate generations on the splendor and complexity of our Earth.

26385 NW Groveland Dr., Hillsboro, OR 97124  
503-647-2418  
[Info@ricenorthwestmuseum.org](mailto:Info@ricenorthwestmuseum.org)  
[www.ricenorthwestmuseum.org](http://www.ricenorthwestmuseum.org)

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Mike and LaVon Siperek  
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[Yankees\\_Diesel@comcast.net](mailto:Yankees_Diesel@comcast.net)

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(253) 852-0539  
804 West Valley Hwy, Kent, WA 98032  
<http://jerrysrockandgem.com/>



## SUNSHINE REPORT

With everything going on, we have started meeting again, but our attendance at the meetings is still low as members are staying safe. As a group we need to bring to each other's attention members who need healing thoughts or prayer sent their way.

Gladys Richards, affectionately known as "Momma" passes away on the morning of February 15. Prayers for the Linville family would be appreciated.

If you know of anyone else who needs to be recognized in next months Sunshine Report , please email or call either Tony Johnson at [ynotopals@outlook.com](mailto:ynotopals@outlook.com) (253) 863-9238 or Jillian Higgins at [J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com](mailto:J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com) (253) 355-3146

### FROM THE BENCH

Do you have an issue making uniform size when cutting wire solder?

Have you tried using different sized washers? Seriously.

I keep a stash of different sized washers with my wire solder. When I am running low or just need to prep for a big piece, I put my washers face down on a flat surface and hold my wire solder vertically in the hole at the center of the washer. Using my flush cutters, I position them parallel to the table top, flush with the top the washer, then I start snipping away. Using different sized washers will produce different, but consistent lengths of wire solder.

Pro Tip: make sure the inner diameter of your washer can be spanned by your flush cutters. Washers with center holes that are too large might cause the tip of your flush cutter to dip, thus defeating the purpose of uniform cutting.

## 2022 SHOW & TELL THEMES and PROGRAM NIGHT EVENTS

MEETING	DATE	SHOW & TELL THEME	PROGRAM NIGHT EVENT
January - 1st Meeting	January 14, 2022	Tiger's Eye or any field trip finds	
January - 2nd Meeting	January 28, 2022	Lace or any field trip finds	Mini Lapidary Demonstrations
February - 1st Meeting	February 11, 2022	Heart shaped or any field trip finds	
February - 2nd Meeting	February 25, 2022	Red, Pink, & Purple or any field trip finds	Carl Carlson
March - 1st Meeting	March 11, 2022	"Sham" rocks or any field trip finds	
March - 2nd Meeting	March 25, 2022	Green or any field trip finds	Jerry's Rock Shop
April - 1st Meeting	April 8, 2022	April Fools Gold or any field trip finds	
April - 2nd Meeting	April 22, 2022	No Show & Tell	Auction/Potluck
May - 1st Meeting	May 13, 2022	Flower rocks or any field trip finds	
May - 2nd Meeting	May 27, 2022	No Show & Tell	Mineral Council
June - 1st Meeting	June 10, 2022	Fancy Slabs & Fossils + any field trip finds	
June - 2nd Meeting	June 24, 2022	No Show & Tell	Tailgate Party @ Grange Parking Lot
July - 1st Meeting	July 8, 2022	Red, White, & Blue or any field trip finds	
July - 2nd Meeting	July 22, 2022	No Show & Tell	Jerry's Rock Shop
August - 1st Meeting	August 12, 2022	Carnelians + any field trip finds	
August - 2nd Meeting	August 27, 2022	No Show & Tell	Picnic & Tailgate Party at club house on Saturday
September - 1st Meeting	September 9, 2022	Crystals + any field trip finds	
September - 2nd Meeting	September 23, 2022	No Show & Tell	Glenn Rodrick
October - 1st Meeting	October 14, 2022	Wood + any field trip finds	
October - 2nd Meeting	October 28, 2022	No Show & Tell	Auction/Potluck
November - 1st Meeting	November 11, 2022	Thundereggs & Geodes + any field trip finds	
November - 2nd Meeting	November 25, 2022	No Show & Tell	BINGO Night
December - 1st Meeting	December 10, 2022	No Show & Tell	Holiday Banquet/Officer Installation on Saturday
December - 2nd Meeting	No Meeting	No Show & Tell	

## 2022 Elected Officers

Title	Name	Phone	Email
President:	Tony Johnson	(253)863-9238	ynotopals@outlook.net
Vice President:	Kevin Higgins	(253)579-3404	kevlar016@hotmail.com
Secretary:	Teresa Rodrick	(253)531-4062	gtrodi@comcast.net
Treasurer:	Jillian Higgins	(253)355-3146	J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com
Association Director:	Patti Dailey-Shives	(253)678-0029	pattidailey28@gmail.com
1 Year Director:	Jack Ragusa	(253)389-3119	jackragusa@gmail.com
2 Year Director:	Glen Ripper	(253)508-7545	glen311944@yahoo.com
1 Year Trustee:	Dennis Batchelor	(360)870-8741	hobbyhorse51@gmail.com
2 Year Trustee:	Glenn Rodrick	(253)531-4062	gtrodi@comcast.net

## 2022 Committee Chairs

Title	Name	Phone	Email
Clubhouse Coordinator	Tony Johnson	(253)863-9238	ynotopals@outlook.net
Club Show Coordinator	Glenn Rodrick	(253)531-4062	gtrodi@comcast.net
Field Trips Coordinator	Dennis Batchelor	(360)870-8741	hobbyhorse51@gmail.com
Web Master	Jillian Higgins	(253)355-3146	J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com
Editor/Communications	Jillian Higgins	(253)355-3146	J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com
Membership	Jillian Higgins	(253)355-3146	J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com
Sunshine	Tony Johnson	(253)863-9238	ynotopals@outlook.net
Newsletter	Jillian Higgins	(253)355-3146	J.Y.Higgins@gmail.com
Mineral Council	Patti Dailey-Shives	(253)678-0029	pattidailey28@gmail.com



**WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL**

The Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club is a member of the American Lands Access Association and the Washington State Mineral Council. You can find more information about the ALAA at: [amlands.org](http://amlands.org) or the WA Mineral Council at:

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## March 2022

Charmayne Tubig – 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Andrea McVey – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Lynn Pacione-Holman – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Whitney Kiesler – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Dennis Small – 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Elijah Puskar – 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Rea Ganacial – 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Shirley Rheault – 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Kaylie Coolidge – 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Tracy Byington – 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Peryl Linville – 14<sup>th</sup>  
 Barbara Englander – 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Brenden Mitchell – 17<sup>th</sup>  
 Danika Puskar – 17<sup>th</sup>  
 Alexander Puskar – 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Evelin Whelan – 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Bill Clark – 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Karen Anderson – 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Beverlee Nichols – 21<sup>st</sup>  
 LaVon Siperek – 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Karen Nelson – 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Megan Hochstrasser – 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Angelina Puskar – 28<sup>th</sup>  
 Earlene Skinner – 31<sup>st</sup>  
 Wanda Perry – 31<sup>st</sup>  
 Glen Ripper – 31<sup>st</sup>  
 Ali Hunt-Smith – 31<sup>st</sup>

## THE RARE, THE UNUSUAL, THE EXOTIC II

C O B A L T O C A L C I T E D R B  
 O G R E A H E T I L L Y H P O P A  
 L E A N H Y D R I T E I C C L E R  
 E E C Y B E T I T S E L E C O W Y  
 M I U L L G T N G T E R P L M W I  
 A L P C Y U C I I E U L H O I E T  
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 S P H A L E R I T E T I N H A G K

- |                   |                 |                |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. ANHYDRITE      | 10. DATOLITE    | 19. PHOSGENITE |
| 2. APOPHYLLITE    | 11. DOLOMITE    | 20. RUTILE     |
| 3. BARYITE        | 12. GAHNITE     | 21. SANIDINE   |
| 4. CELESTITE      | 13. GAYLUSSITE  | 22. SIDERITE   |
| 5. CERUSSITE      | 14. HYPERSTHENE | 23. SPHALERITE |
| 6. COBALTOCALCITE | 15. KORNERUPINE | 24. TANTALITE  |
| 7. COLEMANITE     | 16. LEUCITE     | 25. WILLEMITE  |
| 8. CROCOITE       | 17. NATROLITE   | 26. WITHERITE  |
| 9. CUPRITE        | 18. PERICLASE   |                |



# ROCK-A-TEER

Newsletter of Puyallup Valley

Gem & Mineral Club

P.O. Box 134

Puyallup, WA 98371