



The Rock-It

July/2010

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"The Rock-It" is the official club publication of the Mt. Hood Rock Club. The news deadline is the first day of every month, for that month's publication. The contents of "The Rock-It" may be reprinted if credit is given to "The Rock-It" and the author.

Meetings: Mt. Hood Rock Club meets the second Tuesday & the fourth Monday of each month. Meetings are held in the basement of the United Methodist Church in Gresham. The Church is located at 620 NW 8th St, Gresham, OR. Regular meetings start at 7:00 pm. Juniors are welcome!

Mt. Hood Rock Club: Phone No. (503) 760-1825
Dues are due before January 31st if you want to be included in the club's roster for that year.
Dues: \$10.00 per adult, juniors \$1.50 family membership same household \$15.00.
Oregon Council Web site:
www.oregoncouncilrmc.org

Mt. Hood Rock Club is a proud member of the Portland Regional Gem & Mineral Show Association, Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Oregon Council Rock Mineral Clubs.
Website: check us out on our new web site.
<http://www.mounthoodrockclub.com/>

July Birthstone



July Birthstone : Ruby
Birthstone Color: Red

Like a perfect red rose, the Ruby's rich color speaks of love and passion. Called the "Rajnapura" or King of Gems by ancient Hindus, July's birthstone is among the most highly prized of gems throughout history. The Ruby was considered to have magical powers, and was worn by royalty as a talisman against evil. It was thought to grow darker when peril was imminent, and to return to its original color once danger was past—provided it was in the hands of its rightful owner!

Rubies were thought to represent heat and power. Ancient tribes used the gem as bullets for blowguns, and it was said that a pot of water would boil instantly if a Ruby was tossed into it. Ground to powder and placed on the tongue, this crystal was used as a cure for indigestion.

The word Ruby comes from the Latin "ruber," meaning red. It is a variety of the mineral Corundum, and is found as crystals within metamorphic rock. Corundum is the second hardest mineral, after Diamond. It comes in a variety of colors, and is considered a Sapphire in any color except red, which is designated as a Ruby. Rubies range in hue from an orangey red to a purplish red, but the most prized gems are a true red in color. Large sized Rubies are very rare and valuable.

The history of Ruby mining dates back more than 2,500 years ago. The most beautiful crystals are thought to be from Burma, but quality Rubies are also found in India, Sri Lanka, Australia, Kenya, Tanzania, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the United States.

It has been said that the Ruby's red glow comes from an internal flame that cannot be extinguished, making a gift of this stone symbolic of everlasting love. With its hardness and durability, it is a perfect engagement gem. And if worn on the left hand, ancient lore has it that the Ruby will bring good fortune to its wearer, too!



July birthdays

Linda Bergeson
Bud Hauschild
Larry Kissinger
Mary Kissinger
Edna Nelson
Eunice White

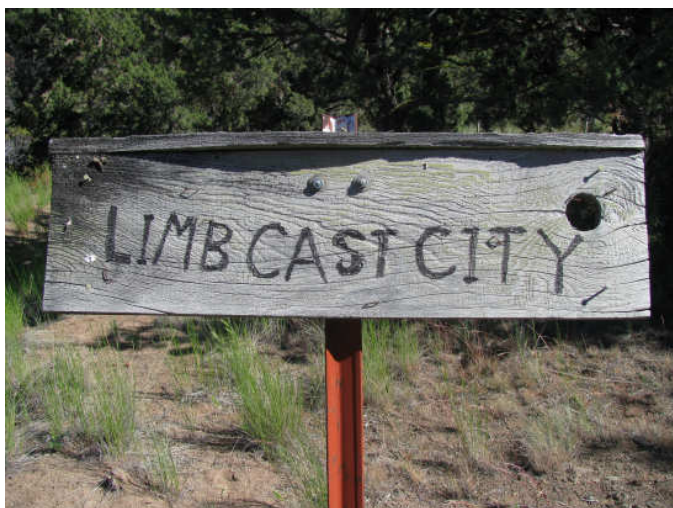
If you would like to see your name in the Birthday section or your anniversary please send me the month that each one falls in email me at packrats2@msn.com to be included.

Prineville show





A few of the dealers



We did find some small pieces of pink limb nothing big!

We also went to Maury Mountain didn't find much there some small pieces so then we went to Pink Limb from there. This sign was posted part of the way there so took a picture and we also looked for some limb casts didn't find too much there either. It was a beautiful day warm with a breeze a good day to get sunburned and boy did I get too much sun. We went rockhunting Sat and then visited the show on Sunday before we came home it was a short trip but we had a good time got to see some of our friends who were down there also.



How to Grow Red Potassium Ferricyanide Crystals

By Anne Marie Helmenstine, Ph.D



Difficulty: Average

Time Required: one or more weeks

Here's How:

1. Place 93 grams of potassium ferricyanide and 200 ml warm water into a clear container.
2. Stir to dissolve.
3. If you wish to grow a single large crystal. Pour a few drops of this solution onto a saucer or other shallow dish (perhaps with a string laid across the liquid, otherwise tie crystals from the plate onto a string.)
4. Allow this liquid to evaporate to form seed crystals. Tie the string to a pencil or butter knife to suspend the string into the original container, being careful not to touch the sides or bottom of the container.
5. Cover the container with a paper towel or coffee filter. You want evaporation to occur, but you don't want contaminants to be able to fall into your crystal-growing solution.
6. Leave your solution undisturbed, but check on it from day to day to watch your crystals grow.
7. Once the crystals have reached the desired size (probably after a week or two), remove the crystal and allow it to dry on a paper towel. Once dry, you can store your crystal wrapped in a piece of tissue.
8. Alternatively, you could allow all of the liquid to evaporate from the container (takes about a month, depending on ambient temperature and humidity).

Tips:

1. If you are having trouble getting all of the solid to dissolve, try using hotter water. If the solid still won't dissolve, allow the solution to settle out, then use only the clear portion for growing crystals (decant it or carefully pour the solution into a clean container).

2. If you have solids in your starting solution the crystals will form (nucleate) around the particles and the resulting crystals will be smaller than if you used a clear solution.

What you need:

- 93 g potassium ferricyanide
- 200 ml warm water
- clear glass or plastic container
- coffee filter or paper towel
- string/pencil (optional)
- spoon or stirring rod

Rockhounding #2

h s t n e t n r t r p s i i e d o m u o s n n
s d e i g n e o u s r o c k s d n o m a i d o
i l a o x v s a x e t i l w o h r m i r l s t
f a p a l e o n t o l o g i s t e a r r i a g
l r s i e e r c e p r e h i s t o r i c c t n
i e s s e n i s s h g l p s a h o j r f a m i
s m s s m r o e u r a a a m r c e a m t k f h
s e d i m e n t a r y r o c k s d d g e c f s
o a n n o o n v s s u r d c s i a e r l o d a
f s t i t u e a e d p a r n o c t n a o r o w
h a d s h l q r t h e i s a e p o a b i c t l
l t m c b c i r i u t t c o c s a i b v i k o
o e o a o h a c u t r t t i n s s l a a n h s
g r r m p p h m e t i e c e e n i e g r a l m
r s e p m s p r e v f a o m c s a n s t c i a
s r a g o a s e e r i r e p s a j r u l l m l
t s s r o a m g r a e r f o e q f a y u o b c
d l r o n n i y u p d h f e r d o c o t v c l
r e l u s o z p l b w r p n o h c o b a c a i
i m o n t a n a f l o o d s u n s t o n e s s
s n l d o p o s p f o s s i l b o n e s s t s
t d n s n c i c i o d o s r f c o p s q o c o
n l i m e s t o n e t l w r u e t i r o u l f

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| CAMPGROUNDS | MAPS |
| TEXAS | OREGON |
| WASHINGTON | HOWLITE |
| JADE | JASPER |
| DIAMONDS | COPPER |
| SILVER | FLUORITE |
| EMERALDS | TENTS |
| CARNELIAN | MOONSTONE |
| PETRIFIED WOOD | SAPPHIRE |
| TURQUOISE | TOPAZ |
| UTAH | OPAL |
| SPHERE MACHINES | CABOCHON |
| FACETTED STONE | IGNEOUS ROCKS |
| VOLCANIC ROCK | LIMB CAST |
| SEDIMENTARY ROCKS | SILICA |
| LIMESTONE | METAMORPHIC |
| ULTRAVIOLET | COAL |
| FLUORESCENCE | HARDNESS |
| RADIOACTIVE | SUNSTONES |
| MONTANA FLOODS | BUGS |
| FOSSIAL BIRDS | GRAVEL BARS |
| POLISHED ROCKS | GRAB BAGS |
| ROCK CRITTERS | NATURE |
| GEM STONES | PREHISTORIC |
| FOSSIL FISH | FOSSIL CLAMS |
| WOOLLY MAMMOTH | PALEONTOLOGIST |
| FOSSIL BONES | |
| TYRANNOSAURUS REX | |

Shop Hints Do they work and are they safe? Who knows? I have not tried them.

Floor Sanding Paper: Floor sanding paper will give amazing results in removing saw marks from slabs or specimens. Even if the sandpaper has been used it will still do a good job. From Carny Hound 7/10

Cutting the Last Slab: To cut that last slab from your favorite piece, use water glass. Apply a thin coating to a board small enough to fit your vise. Then put the rock on the board, moving it around until it has a firm seating.

Let dry for at least 24 hours. To remove the piece remaining on the board, soak in hot water until it slips off.

From Carny Hound 11/62

Rock Bags: To make a good rock bag, take a pair of old jeans. Cut off one of the legs (about 24" is a good length) and sew one end closed. Of course, you can cut off more or less, depending on how much you think you can carry. Put in a draw string.

From Carny Hound 11/62

Capping Stones: When capping stones, set them in a shallow dish of salt while the cement is drying. Salt packs better than sand and is easier to wash off.

From Carny Hound 10/62, via Australian Lapidary Magazine



Fresh Apple Cake

July's Recipe

- 4 c. fresh apples, chopped
- 2 c. sugar
- ½ cup salad oil
- 2 eggs, well beaten
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 1 c. chopped nuts
- 2 c. flour
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 tsp. soda

Mix apples and sugar thoroughly; stir in the oil, nuts, eggs, and vanilla. Sift dry

ingredients and stir into apple mixture, combining thoroughly. Pour into a prepared 9x13 inch baking pan. Bake at 350* for 1 hour, or until it shrinks away from the edges of the pan. In pyrex, the baking temperature is 300°F.

Variation: use half white and half brown sugar, add ¼ teaspoon ground cloves and 1 cup or more raisins or dates. Serve with whipped cream or other whipped dairy product. If topping is not desired, put a paper doily on top and dust lightly with powdered sugar.

Mineral Match

Match the mineral name on the left with the meaning of name on the right.

Pyrite	Mallow (a plant)
Amethyst	Sea Water
Calcite	Snake
Malachite	Precious Stone
Gypsum	Scale Stone
Diamond	Not Drunken
Serpentine	Salt or Saltwater
Garnet	Gold Paint
Aquamarine	Fire
Asbestos	Invincible
Halite	Burnt Lime
Orpiment	Heaven or Sky
Opal	Plaster
Lepidolite	Pomegranate
Celestite	Heavy
Barite	Unquenchable