

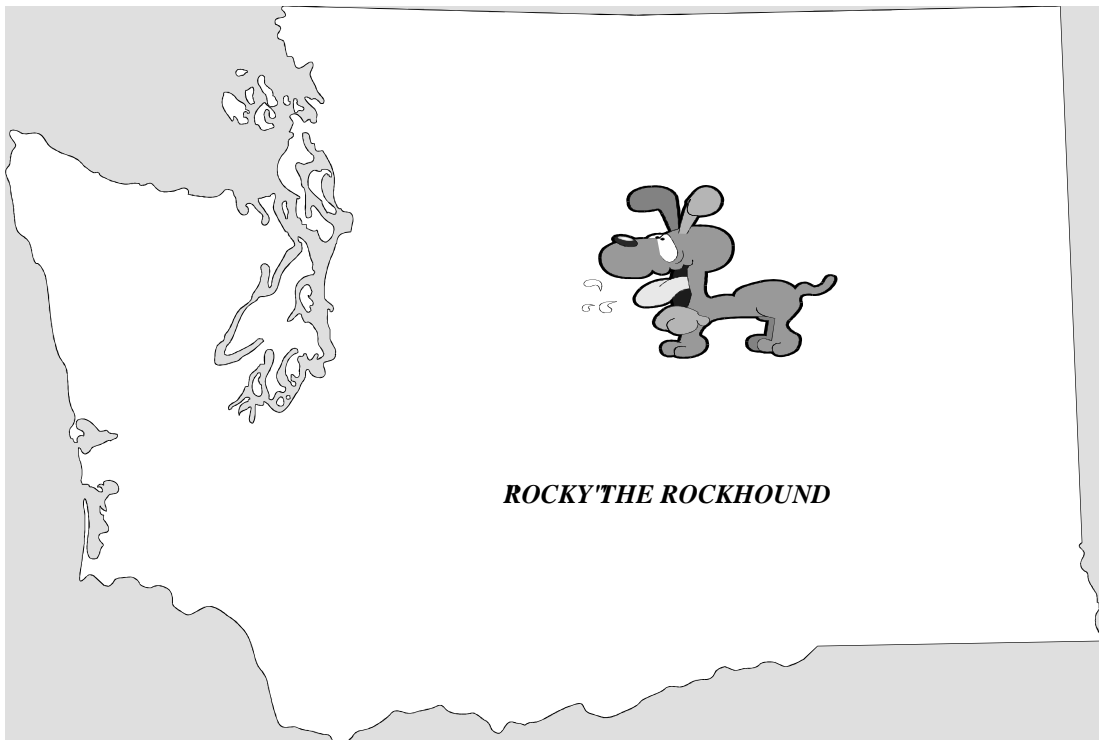


The Council Reporter



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**Official Publication of the
Washington State Mineral Council**

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2011 OFFICERS**

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Wagonmaster	open		

The West Side Board meets the third Tuesday of each month between Quarterly meetings, unless a meeting is specially called. Usually no meeting in July and December dependent on Board action.

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Westside Board Meeting Minutes 01/17/12

The West side board meeting on 01/17/12 was canceled due to the snow storm.

Senate Bill 6057

Attention all rockhounds. A bill has been introduced in our state Senate that will allow rock collecting on Department of Fish and Wildlife managed lands and codify allowing rock collecting on Department of Natural Resources managed lands. This is SB 6057. We need all members of every rock club in the state to contact their state senators and ask them to sponsor this bill. We also need you to contact your state representatives and ask them to introduce this legislation in the state assembly

SB 6057 is sponsored by Senators [Honeyford](#), [Hatfield](#), [Becker](#), [Schoesler](#), [Shin](#), [Delvin](#), and is currently in the Committee on Energy, Natural Resources and Marine Waters.

There is a link at <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/> where a person can get information on this Bill. There is also a provision within the link to follow the progress of same, I am told. It is now early in the Legislative process and at least the Bill has been referred to Committee.

It is imperative that all Newsletter Editors/publishers send out notice about this Bill and encourage their organization's members to contact their Legislators for further action to bring it to the Floor for a vote of passage. Newsletter Editors should also publish the following link:

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/Default.aspx>

for their subscribers to find contact information regarding their own State Legislators and encourage them to utilize this link and become a part of the "process".

Remember, submitting a Bill does not get it passed!! I feel it is the pressure of the constituents upon their WA State Legislators, both the in the House and the Senate, that get Bills pushed through.

It is up to the Rockhounds, Knappers and others of like interest to get moving to push on this ASAP and keep the pressure on throughout this session until it gets passed! It is now up to us, the people who can benefit the most from the passage of this Bill, to carry the ball! If we don't, there is no further hope for these groups to gain or even keep their collecting areas/locations open to the public! Senator Jim Honeyford has been very supportive and cooperative in our interests. He and the other signees of this bill need to be recognized for this progress

February 21, 2012 Westside Board Meeting AGENDA

Opening of Meeting
 ◇ Brian Waters
 Treasurer's Report
 ◇ Kathy Earnst
 Committee Reports
 ◇ Wagonmaster -Ed Lehman
 Old Business
 New Business
 Open Comments

Preliminary Meeting Calendar for 2012

West side board meetings:
1/17, 2/21, 4/17, 6/19, 10/16

At 7:30PM at the
Maplewood Clubhouse
8802 196th St SW, Edmonds

General meetings :
3/24, 5/5, 9/22, 11/3

All general meetings will be held at:

Palace Café
4th & Main
Ellensburg
Meeting @ 9:30 AM

to date.

So please, contact your state legislators and report any and all responses to me at

bwaterss2011@gmail.com
Thank you,
Brian Waters
President
Washington State Mineral Council

Did U Know!

One of the primary constitutional responsibilities of Congress is to pass legislation funding the operation and activities of the federal government. Article I, Section 9, Clause 7 of the U.S. Constitution reads: "No money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law." The power to appropriate belongs exclusively to the legislative branch. Each year Congress undertakes to pass a budget and

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then, within the constraints set out by that budget, pass 12 appropriations bills that provide discretionary funding for the fiscal year, which begins October 1.

As a Member of the House Appropriations Committee I am tasked with the responsibility to carefully weigh priorities for federal spending and oversee how agencies spend taxpayer dollars. It is important for citizens to understand this function of Congress, but unfortunately most people only hear short sound-bites about the budget process in the media and don't have an opportunity to put them in context. As a result, I have tried to provide a basic outline of how the federal budget process works so that you can follow this year's appropriations cycle. (Mike Simpson, ID congressman)

The Appropriations Committee writes 12 annual appropriations bills that provide approximately 40% of federal spending for a fiscal year. This funding is called discretionary spending. Nearly 60% of federal spending is controlled either by legislative committees or, like Medicare, Social Security, and Medicaid, is on auto-pilot and does not need to be appropriated every year. This is called direct or mandatory spending.

302 allocations

The congressional budget resolution establishes spending priorities by setting an overall spending limit for the government and dividing that spending among the 20 major functional categories of the federal budget. Committees with jurisdiction over these functions must operate within these amounts, which are called 302(a) allocations, in order to stay within the overall spending limit established by the budget resolution.

The budget resolution sets the 302(a) allocation for the Appropriations Committee, which is the overall cap on discretionary spending. For FY12, the 302(a) allocation is \$1.019 trillion

Each subcommittee is allocated a certain amount of funding under the full Committee's 302(a) allocation. These allocations, which are referred to as 302(b) allocations, establish the cap on spending for each of the appropriations bills. It is important to note that the subcommittees themselves don't determine the level of funding for each bill; they only determine how that money is spent among the agencies and programs under the subcommittee's jurisdiction.

Twelve Appropriations Subcommittees determine discretionary funding for government functions. Each of these subcommittees produces one bill each year. Subcommittees include:

[Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies](#), which oversees funding for the USDA (except the Forest Service) and other agencies; [Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies](#), which oversees funding for the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice, NASA, and other agencies;

[Defense](#), which oversees funding for the military, the intelligence community, and other national defense related agencies; [Energy and Water Development](#), which oversees funding for the Department of Energy, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and other agencies;

[Financial Services and General Government](#), which oversees funding for the Department of the Treasury, the Executive Office of the President, and other government functions;

[Homeland Security](#), which oversees funding for the Department of Homeland Security;

[Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies](#), which oversees funding for the Department of the Interior, the EPA, the U.S. Forest Service, and a number of independent agencies;

[Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies](#), which oversees funding for the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, and other agencies;

[Legislative Branch](#), which oversees funding for the House of Representatives (the Senate Legislative Branch oversees funding for the U.S. Senate), the U.S. Capitol, the Library of Congress, and other legislative branch functions;

[Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies](#), which oversees funding for military construction (including military housing), the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies;

[State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs](#), which oversees funding for the U.S. State Department, USAID, and related programs;

[Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies](#), which oversees funding for the Department of Transportation, HUD, and related agencies.

Land and Water Conservation Fund What is the Land and Water Conservation Fund and why is it important to you?

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is the primary source of funding available to the Federal land management agencies to preserve, develop and assure access to outdoor recreational resources. This includes the purchase of in-holdings within existing Federal lands, the purchase of large private holdings that may be threatened by development pressures, as well as the purchase of easements and corridors which provide improved public access to existing federal lands.

In the West, these public lands are where most hunters hunt, and many other forms of recreation take place. They are not subject to the threats of exclusive leasing that threaten hunting and outdoor traditions. They will never be sold and posted "no trespassing."

How does the Land and Water Conservation Fund get funding?

The LWCF is a "trust fund" that accumulates revenues primarily from oil and gas leases on the Outer Continental Shelf. Over the last decade, these revenues have averaged around \$6.4 bil-

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Local Area Shows for 2012

DATE & TIME	CLUB	SHOW	LOCATION
February 2012 11th 9am—5pm 12th 9am—4pm	Whidbey Island Gem Club	47th Annual Sweetheart of Gems Show	Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE. Jerome Street Oak Harbor, WA
February 2012 25th 10am - 6pm 26th 10am - 5pm	Idaho Gem & Mineral Club	Annual Gem And Mineral Show	Expo Idaho Fairgrounds 5610 Glenwood & Chinden Boise, Idaho
March 2012 3rd 10am - 6pm 4th 10am - 5pm	East KingCo Club	Annual Rock and Gem Show	Pickering Barn 1730 10th Ave NW Issaquah, WA
March 2012 3rd 9am - 6pm 4th 9am - 5pm	Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society	58th Annual Rock & Gem Show	O'Conner Field House Canyon Co. Fairgrounds 2200 Blaine Caldwell, Idaho
March 2012 10th 9am—6pm 11th 10am—5pm	Magic Valley Gem Club	61st Annual Show	Twin Falls Co., Fairgrounds 215 Fair Ave., Filer, ID
March 2012 17th 10am—5pm 18th 10am—5pm	North Seattle Lapidary And Mineral Club	57th Annual show	Lake City Community Center 12531 28th Ave. NE, Seattle
March 2012 31st 10am - 6pm April 1st 10am - 5pm	Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society	64th Annual Rock & Mineral Show	Sweet Home High School Activity Gym handicap parking 1641 Long St. Sweet Home, OR
March 2012 31st 10am - 6pm April 1st 10am - 5pm	Mt. Baker Rock & Gem Club	51st Rock and Gem Show	Bloedel-Donovan Park 2214 Electric Ave. Bellingham WA
March 2012 31st 10am - 6pm April 1st 10am - 5pm	SE Idaho Gem and Mineral Club	55th Annual show	Bannock County Fairgrounds 10588 Ifft Rd Pocatello, ID
April 2012 20th 9am—6pm 21st 10am—6pm 22nd 10am—4:30pm	Willamette Agate and Mineral Society	57th Annual show	Polk County Fairgrounds 520 S Hwy 99 (Pacific Hy) - 10 miles west of Salem Rickreall, Oregon
April 2012 21st 10am—5pm 22nd 10am—5pm	West Seattle Rock Club	45nd Annual Rock Show	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40th Ave. SW. (W Seattle), WA
April 2012 28th 10am - 5pm 29th 10am - 5pm	Grays Harbor Gem & Geology Society	44th Annual Earth's Treasures	Grays Harbor County fairgrounds 43 Elma/McCleary Rd. Elma, WA
April 2012 28th 10am - 6pm 29th 10am - 4pm	Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society	Annual Gem and Mineral Show	Hermiston Conference Center 415 S Hwy 395 Hermiston, OR. 97838
May 2012 4th 10am—6pm 5th 10am—6pm 6th 10am - 4pm	Spokane Rock Rollers	53rd Annual show	Spokane County Fair and Expo Center 604 N Havana Spokane, WA
May 2012 18th 10am - 5pm 19th 10am - 5pm 20th 10am - 4pm	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club	2012 NFMS Annual Gem Show Rock'N the Country No Leaverites Here!	Benton Fairgrounds 1500 South Oak St. Kennewick, WA
June 2012 2nd 10am—6pm 3rd 10am—5pm	Everett Rock and Gem Club	59th Annual show	Everett Soccer Arena 2201 California St Everett, WA

TENTATIVE LIST OF WSMC FIELD TRIPS FOR 2012 - (May be altered during the year. Please check back often.)

The WSMC sponsors field trips through various rock clubs in the state. These trips offer the general public as well as the experienced rockhound the opportunity to collect a wide variety of materials from agate and jasper to crystals and fossils. Experienced guides familiar with the sites are on-hand to help find good quality material. Check with the local clubs in your area for further information. **AREAS CURRENTLY CLOSED TO COLLECTING: LUCAS CREEK, ADNA, DIATOM PITS (FRENCHMAN HILLS).** No motorized vehicles allowed: Green Mountain (Kalama) and First Creek.

Check out the trip info, and tool listings at: mineralcouncil.org.

Updated: November 14, 2011

Date	Host	Site	Meet @	Material	Tools
1/28	Msvl	Bvr Vily Quarry	10:30@	Pt Ludlow C of Comm (93 Beaver Valley Rd)	Chert, Zeolites, Geodes Hard rock tools
2/18	Msvl	Cedar Ponds	9:00 @	Monroe, WA Jack 'n Box	Red & Yellow Jasper Dig & light hard rock
3/11	Evt/LkSd	Sadl Mtn/Dtm Pts	9:00 @	Mattawa, WA-Harvest Foods	Pet. Wood & Diat. opal Light & dig tools
4/14	MtBk	Racehorse Crk	9:00 @	Nugent's Corner, E of Bellnham	Fossils; Morel mshrms Dig, light, & split tools
4/21-22	Pow-Wow	Saddle Mtn	8:00 @	Boat launch: S. Mattawa	Petr. Wood Light hard rock & dig tools
5/19-20	Msvl	Wasco, OR	8:00 @	Biggs Junction, OR; Shell Gas	China Hollow Pic Jasp(\$) Regstr. Opens 3/16/12; \$25 Deposit
6/13-16	Tri-Fed	Idaho	TBD		Contact Fed. Representative Old clothes, Ziploc bag/\$fee dig
6/23	Spkn	Emerald Crk, ID	8:00 @	Emerald Crk Parking Area	Star Garnets (\$ Fee dig) Dig & light tools
6/27-7/1	Pow-Wow	Madras, OR	8:00 @	Jefferson Fair Grounds	Agate, jasper, wood, T-eggs(\$) Hard rock dig, dress for water
7/21	Msvl/Dar	Darrington	10:00@	Rock Show behind IGA Store	Travertine & Spelunking Screen, wood saw, dig tools
7/28	WSea	Lk Wenatchee	9:00 @	Coles Corner Gas Sta.	Garnets, actinolite, talc Shovel, pick, rock hammer
8/4	Yak	Timberwolf Mtn	9:00 @	Ace Hardware, Naches, WA	Quartz Crystals Shovel & pick (lots of digging)
8/11	Spkn	Lolo Pass, ID	8:00 @	Lolo Hot Springs Pkng Lot	Smoky Quartz Crystals Dig & light hard rock
8/18-19	NW Op	Greenwater	9:00 @	Enumclaw Rngr Station	Agate, Jasper Dig & light hard rock
9/8-9	Pow-Wow	Red Top	8:00 @	W Frk Teanaway Camp	Geodes, Agate, jade Dig & light hard rock
9/15	NW Op	Little Naches	9:00 @	TBD	Thunder eggs, Rhyolite Container, and rock hammer
10/6	Spkn	Chewelah Area	9:00 @	Chewelah Safeway	Magnesite, Var. Minerals Rock Hammer & Container
10/27	Msvl	Miller Rvr	9:00 @	Hwy 2, Money Crk Campgrnd	Picture Jasper Hard rock tools
11/10	MtBk	Blanchard Hill	9:00 @	I-5 exit 240, Gas Mart	Stilpnomelane in Quartz

(* Deposit must be received no later than 30 days before trip date to reserve spot; deposit fully refundable.) Participants must be age 16 or older; no children or pets, please; maximum of 40 participants so get your reservations in early!)

ALWAYS CALL TO CONFIRM TRIP DATES AND DETAILS!— SEE BELOW

Abbreviation	Host	Contact	E-mail
Evt	Everett Rock & Gem Club	Brad Johnson (206) 403-3073	cavemanrocks@yahoo.com
LkSd	Lakeside Gem & Min Club	Andy Johnson (509) 546-1950	washatonian2@hotmail.com
Msvl	Marysville Rock Club	Ed Lehman (425) 334-6282	wsmced@hotmail.com
Msvl-Wasco trip		Stu & Kathy Earnst (360) 856-0588 27871 Minkler Rd, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284	earnstkk@comcast.net
MtBk	Mt Baker Rock Club	Kris Menger (360) 927-0994	kmenger@comcast.net
Nw Op	NW Opal Association	Tony Johnson (253) 863-9238	ynotbandit@earthlink.net
Pow-Wow	All Rockhounds Club	Cliff Matteson (253) 475-8433	cliff.conniematteson@gmail.com
Spkn	Rock Rollers of Spokane	Mike Shaw (509) 251-1574	mikeshawmoose@yahoo.com
WSea	West Seattle Rock & Gem Club	Brian Waters (206) 290-2312	bwaterss2011@gmail.com
Yak	Yakima Rock & Min Club	Jerry Wichstrom (509) 653-2787	jewtmew@aol.com

Trips are open to all. Most 2 day trips include Sat potluck, Sun free breakfast, tailgating, swap, and horse shoes. Small fee required for Pow Wow and Madras trips. FOR MORE INFORMATION contact Ed Lehman at wsmced@hotmail.com or (425) 334-6282. Or see mineralcouncil.org

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lion annually. The fund was created by Congress in 1965 as a way to at least partially offset the impacts of oil and gas exploration on our nation's natural resources. The enabling legislation allowed for \$900 million annually - less that 15% of the average revenues over the last decade - to be appropriated to the LWCF for acquisition habitats and recreation areas and to assist in the development of local parks and recreation facilities. The enabling legislation requires that Congress annually appropriate LWCF monies to specific projects. Unappropriated monies are returned to the Federal Treasury to fund unrelated funding needs.

What's the problem?

Unfortunately, Congress has failed to annually appropriate the full \$900 million contributed to the LWCF. In the last decade, Congress only appropriated an average of \$313 million annual-

ly, or less than 5% of the available offshore revenues. Consequently, Federal land management agencies have not been able to take advantage of willing seller opportunities that would have protected important wildlife habitats from development and provided more places for hunters to hunt. The lack of available funding has precluded these agencies from actively searching for easement and fee acquisition opportunities that would improve hunter access to large tracts of existing Federal lands.

Birthstone for January isGARNETS!!

Via...C&C News 01/12, Northwest Opal Assn. Newsletter, "The Opal Flash" written by Char Jorgensen, Gemologist, Editor

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Garnets species are found in many colors including red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black, pink and colorless. The rarest of these is the blue garnet, discovered in the late 1990s in Bekily, Madagascar. It is also found in parts of the United States, Russia and Turkey. It changes color from blue-green in the daylight to purple in incandescent light, as a result of the relatively high amounts of vanadium (about 1 wt.% V₂O₃). Other varieties of color-changing garnets exist. In daylight, their color ranges from shades of green, beige, brown, gray, and blue, but in incandescent light, they appear a reddish or purplish/pink color. Because of their color changing quality, this kind of garnet is often mistaken for Alexandrite.

Crystal structure

Garnets are nesosilicates. Garnets are most often found in the dodecahedral crystal habit, but are also commonly found in the trapezohedron habit. Crystallize in the cubic system, having three axes that are all of equal length and perpendicular to each other. Garnets do not show cleavage, so when they fracture under stress, sharp irregular pieces are formed.

Hardness

Because the chemical composition of garnet varies, the atomic bonds in some species are stronger than in others. As a result, this mineral group shows a range of hardness on the Mohs Scale of about 6.5 to 7.5. The harder species, like almandine, are often used for abrasive purposes.

Almandine - Almandine, sometimes incorrectly called almandite, is the modern gem known as carbuncle (though originally almost any red gemstone was known by this name). The term "carbuncle" is derived from the Latin meaning "live coal" or burning charcoal. The name Almandine is a corruption of Alabanda, a region in Asia Minor where these stones were cut in ancient times.

Pyrope -Pyrope (from the Greek pyrōpós meaning "fire-eyed") is red in color and chemically a magnesium aluminum silicate with the formula Mg₃Al₂(SiO₄)₃, though the magnesium can be replaced in part by calcium and ferrous iron. The color of pyrope varies from deep red to almost black. Transparent pyropes are used as gemstones. A variety of pyrope from Macon County, North Carolina is a violet-red shade and has been called rhodolite, from the Greek meaning "a rose." In chemical composition it may be considered as essentially an isomorphous mixture of pyrope and almandine, in the proportion of two parts pyrope to one part almandine

Spessartine -Spessartine or spessartite is manganese aluminum garnet, Mn₃Al₂(SiO₄)₃. Its name is derived from Spessart in Bavaria. It occurs most often in granite pegmatite and allied rock types and in certain low grade metamorphic phyllites. Spessartine of an orange-yellow is found in Madagascar. Violet-red spessartines are found in rhyolites in Colorado and Maine.

Andradite -Andradite is a calcium-iron garnet, Ca₃Fe₂(SiO₄)₃, is of variable composition and may be red, yellow, brown, green or black. The recognized varieties are topazolite (yellow or green), demantoid (green) and melanite (black). Demantoid has been called the "emerald of the Urals" from its occurrence there, and is one of the most prized of garnet varieties. Topazolite is a golden yellow variety and melanite is a black variety.

Grossular -Grossular is a calcium-aluminum garnet with the formula Ca₃Al₂(SiO₄)₃, though the calcium may in part be replaced by ferrous iron and the aluminum by ferric iron. The name grossular is derived from the botanical name for the gooseberry, grossularia, in reference to the green garnet of this composition that is found in Siberia. Other shades include cinnamon brown (cinnamon stone variety), red, and yellow. Because of its inferior hardness to zircon, which the yellow crystals resemble, they have also been called hessonite from the Greek meaning inferior. Grossular is found in contact metamorphosed limestones with vesuvianite, diopside, wollastonite and wernerite. One of the most sought after varieties of gem garnet is the fine green grossular garnet from Kenya and Tanzania called tsavorite. This garnet was discovered in the 1960s in the Tsavo area of Kenya, from which the gem takes its name.

Uvarovite -Uvarovite is a calcium chromium garnet with the formula Ca₃Cr₂(SiO₄)₃. This is a rather rare garnet, bright green in color, usually found as small crystals associated with chromite in peridotite, serpentinite, and kimberlites. It is found in crystalline marbles and schists in the Ural mountains of Russia and Outokumpu, Finland. Uvarovite crystals are generally too small to facet and are left attached to a matrix.

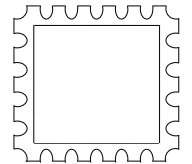
Color change garnets -Garnet members of the pyrope-spessartine solid-solution series from Bekily in Madagascar display several colors depending on the light source. The alexandrite-like color change from blue-green in daylight to purple in incandescent light is mainly caused by relatively high amounts of vanadium. Although they look a lot like alexandrites they are different because they change color throughout the day. They are green or blue grey in the early morning and reddish in the late afternoon or in strong sunlight. Bekily garnets will appear red in the afternoon while the alexandrites remain green. Garnets from other parts of East Africa also change color but as they normally change from brown or orange to red, they don't look much like alexandrite. Some of the stones are almost blue especially under fluorescent light but most of them are grey blue or green in daylight and change to red under incandescent or late afternoon light. The stones can show an excellent color change and can easily be confused with alexandrite.

Dues are due

**Westside Board Meeting
February 21, 2012
7:30 PM**

**Maplewood Clubhouse
8802 196th St SW
Edmonds**

COUNCIL REPORTER, Monthly publication of The
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WASHINGTON STATE MINERAL COUNCIL
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