

Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine & Gold Fever Rock Shop

April 2005

Dear Friends,

A chorus of meadow larks, geese and a lone woodpecker greet the morning here at the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine near Helena, Montana. Even the birds are gleeful when the wind stops. Shifting ground patterns of dark and light shadows give hints of a sunny day. Hint is all we get as spring slowly edges into the northern latitude.



Cass and Deb are attending the Rocky Mountain International Roundup conference in Boise, Idaho for international tour operators. European tour operators from Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and United Kingdom are attending. Travel agents in Europe claim travelers enjoy experiencing destinations that are "off the beaten path" and that would fit this sapphire mine in Montana. For tour



group inquires, contact Deb at 1-877-344-4367. Groups of 10-100 can be scheduled.



"Hi Deb... This is the finished sapphire that has been in two previous Testimonials..once as a discovered piece of rough and once as a loose gem. It was found in an El Dorado Monster Mine bag weighing in at 7.09 cts and faceted to 4.45 cts and placed in a large white gold men's setting. I wear it as advertising and it always gets wonderful comments. Of course I tell them where I found the stone! I have not had this appraised yet. To me it is PRICELESS!!" Nick George My2ndheart@aol.com

"Deb....Such wonderful comments about this ring!! I wanted the mount to be simple yet elegant. I can't tell you how much I enjoy wearing it and knowing that it's from the Mine and I found it and followed through to its completion. As I said before, the stone was found as a 7ct. + piece of rough.(People can see earlier pictures of the rough



under "Testimonials"). It was sent to Elliott Sher at Shergems, .heat treated in the U.S. and sent for faceting in Thailand. The finished stone weighs 4.45 carats oval cut, a pleasing medium blue in a white gold men's setting. It is bezel mounted to reduce exposure to the stone through daily use. I don't know if other people have attempted to have their finds appraised. You have to find someone competent who is willing to do this procedure. A jeweler I talked with said there is no test for sapphire!! All I can say is take plenty of pictures of your finds!! Document when you found them and where. Build a true history of your gem finds. This is especially true if you are thinking of selling your finished gems! Deb...I've again bent your ear... Yet I believe it's important for us long-distance miners to enjoy our passion to the fullest....Be well..." Nick George My2ndheart@aol.com

Marcy Shadow, a teacher at Seattle Washington Middle School ordered a truck load of sapphire gravel and garnet gravel bags for students. Russ delivered the gravel to Seattle. Marcy reported three gold nuggets found in the garnet bags so far - *"the garnet bags have yielded fine stones of large size but the best thing found so far was a flake of gold 1/2 inch by 1/4inch...wow!!!"* Marcy

I am offering a limited special, your choice of either a **Winter Garnet Gravel** or one **Hobby Box - Free with any MONSTER MINE order through April 30th**. There are four Monster Mine choices – regular Spokane Bar Monster Mine, Guaranteed Monster Mine, El Dorado Monster Mine or Enhanced Monster Mine. View our products and make your choices under "Go Mining" at www.sapphiremine.com.

You can also order a random "**Gem Hunt**" out of the sand box, **one gem for \$5 each**. Faceted gems in the sand box include amethyst, citrine, garnet, ruby, sapphire, topaz, moonstone, peridot, opal, topaz, iolite, tourmaline, and smoky quartz. Faceted gems sizes vary from tiny up to chunky.

Order soon at www.sapphiremine.com or call 1-877-dig gems (406-344-4367). You can also mail your order to 5360 Castles Road, Helena, Montana 59602. We ship UPS to your door.

Sincerely,

Deb and Russ Thompson and staff at the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine
1-877-dig gems www.sapphiremine.com sales@sapphiremine.com
5360 Castles Road – Helena, Montana 59602