

Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine & Gold Fever Rock Shop

September 7, 2006 Newsletter

Dear Friends!

Every once in a while, Montana gets too wild for its own good, and forest fires crop up in different locations. Once they do, all of Montana knows about it. There's a bluish haze that floats through the air, and can be seen hovering over Hauser Lake, ten miles east of Helena, Montana. The air smells rich with wild fire, like the hearth of a roaring fireplace. It makes work done out here seem all the more wilder.



After a customer has sifted through their entire bag of gravel, they enter the Gold Fever Rock Shop, excitedly waving their bags of quartz, agates and sapphires in awe. This is what we like to call the, "Moment of Truth" for our prospectors. Just like when an old-timer would bring their gold they'd mined to the Weights and Measurements Bureau, their anxious hands rubbing together with hope, we separate the precious stones from the common rocks.

Mixed in with the rocks and the dirt that our prospectors excitedly bring to the "Moment of Truth" is the Real McCoy. Sapphires as large as 13 carats are being found at the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine. Numerous pink sapphires with purple hues, hexagonal, pencil shaped crystals and many green-blue sapphires have been found this month. Mary Anderson, Vernonia, Oregon – 1.465 pink sapphire-E Bag; Neil Cavanagh, Brockton, Massachusetts 10.14 carat sapphire E Bag; Dave Yeadon, Amarillo, Texas 13.83 carat sapphire E-Bag; Tom Shiflett, Goodrich, Michigan, 8.25 carat sapphire – E Bag; Kelly Marriman, Great Falls, Montana -4.53 carat blue sapphire S Bag; Franz Herzog, Ottingen, Switzerland -4.84 carat green sapphire, S Bag; and others.

If you find yourself wondering from time to time if you've got a sapphire the size of a golf ball, or a rock that's just free loading in your collection, we are selling raw, uncut, **Sample Sapphires**. It's a handy reminder to refer to when unsure of each and every chunk of quartz. Maybe you've got an agate that's acting like a sapphire, or a sapphire that's rough like quartz. These Sample Sapphires are large enough to see the unique properties that corundum (the sapphire mineral) displays. Rough sapphires are a great investment, and not so easy to acquire. Mining at home with our Monster Mine packages can be a great solution to find sapphires and treasures!

“I ordered a bag of Cactus Hill gravel and was surprised to find many (as in hundreds) of sapphires, and mainly light to dark green rocks. What intrigued me the most was a milky white ... almost porcelain white rock nearly the size of my hand. Do you perhaps know what type of rock it is (sorry, no camera)? Thanks. The quality of the sapphires is excellent from Cactus Hill,”

*Sincerely,
Larry McTernan*

“Just thought you might like to see some pictures of the biggest one we got out of our first bag. It measures 1/2"x7/16"x3/8". This is a lot of fun for the whole family.”

*Thank you,
John Cline
Antioch, CA.*



The Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine, located near Helena, Montana, has been working all summer building up a supply of material for the winter months in anticipation of our boom in business when we air on the **Travel Channel**. When the temperature drops to thirty-below zero, we won't be standing on top of the trommel, running material or digging for sapphires, but we have stockpiled material for the winter months!

If you would like to take advantage of our fresh supply of **Spokane, Cactus, El Dorado, or Guaranteed Gravel** options -order online at www.sapphiremine.com or call us at 1-877-dig gems. **Order any Monster Mine sapphire gravel and receive one FREE faceted, small 3 mm Blue Sapphire! Offer is good until September 30th. (Additional 3mm faceted sapphires can be ordered for \$10 if you need a match for earrings.)**



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Deb and Russ Thompson and staff at the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine
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