

Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine & Gold Fever Rock Shop

November 2003 Newsletter

Dear Friends!

Snow dominates the terrain yet the sapphire miners keep mining! We are filling E-El Dorado Monster Mines as fast as possible. The open fire next to the trommel did not beat back the wind and driving snow. The 15 carat sapphires and gold nuggets reported in



October was enough to encourage us to **go get more** sapphire gravel at El Dorado! The first truckloads of El Dorado sapphire gravel were treasure troves. Russ tried a new spot in virgin ground. It was only a few feet to bedrock and lined with hematite. He picked up several sapphires off the ground and decided to start digging. We doubled up on the haul trucks and they made it up Nelson Road, down Favorite Gulch Road and down to the property. The new property overlooks the Missouri River facing south, around the bend from Spokane Bar (ten minutes by boat).



The haul truck drivers emptied their twenty yard belly dumps back at the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine – and only got stuck twice this time. We just got started washing the gravel when the weather changed. Mike waded out in the lake water to unplug the pipe. It was plugged with moss. Four inch ice sickles formed as he was working on the pipe. The blizzard and closed roads north subsided and the sun came

back out. A break in the weather reignited our enthusiasm to wash more sapphire gravel! Steam rising from the lake shrouds the beach. It is a whole 5 degrees out. The hazards of weather, freezing pipes, ice block boots, are only a few – not to mention at least four boxes (make that five) of ammo I just heard blasting geese below the cliff (not us). The dogs are smart enough to cower.

Regular Spokane Bar Sapphire Gravel “Monster Mines” continue to sell with reports of spectacular finds (see “Testimonials” at www.sapphiremine.com). Tim from Kansas wrote:

“I have only been through about a third of my shipment and I “think” I have about a dozen, from green to yellow to white ones. One of the other best things is that I have found PLENTY of stones to tumble, and have had so many people want them for their bamboo planters. It's been a joy (and a lot of work) but it has also been a type of 'therapy' to search for them. I hope to send the one's I found and see if they can be made into something wonderful.”

Ron from Alberta wrote:

“Just a quick note to let you know that the Monster mine we purchased from you guys has really paid off! We have found an incredible amount of raw sapphires and one exceptionally large Ruby that is way bigger than my wife's 1 1/2 carat diamond.....about three times as big.....Actual weight will be passed on to you. We had approximately 42 carats of sapphires that we found before we left your place on the 1st of August and when we got home, we finished the bucket of a little each evening after supper and found in excess of 100 carats in all.”

The fun continues!!

Cass and Mike created a large “[Premium Gem Kit](#)” for a [holiday special](#). It is everything you need to gem hunt at home, not just a sample, but enough to keep you busy mining. The kit has both sapphire and garnet gravel, tweezers to pick out the gems, a faceted sapphire, faceted garnet, plus we added the pamphlet with photos to help out. The photos are in high demand. I encourage you to send in your digital photos of sapphire finds. We post them on our website. Rough sapphires can be difficult to discern in the gravel especially if you have only seen the mounted blue ones in Zales, and that was a while back. (Not a true depiction!)



A sapphire gravel Elf Bag will be tossed in your box for Monster or E-El Dorado Monster orders between now and December 15th. Order now and order often! Thanks everyone!!

Brian or Deb will take your calls at 1-877-dig gems or order online at www.sapphiremine.com . Thanks for your terrific response and continued

interest in mining sapphire gravel at home. Recent photos will be posted on our website.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

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

1-877-dig gems

<http://www.sapphiremine.com>

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