

## Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine & Gold Fever Rock

Mid December Memo

Dear Friends:

Silence speaks, though quiet, wind shaking juniper and pine – a single bird – a twitter of flight under brush. The gray sky cast not shadows but hues of steel, dark not blue – a flattened lake. Hauser Lake is outlined in brown lines along the shore of driftwood and dampened rock. Across the lake, sloping tan prairie grass recedes, merging into black pine, dotted and traversed by gully lines. The stark trees line the ridge meeting the shaded winter sky. Winter's solemn hue waits with the silence until wind currents shake the leafless brush.

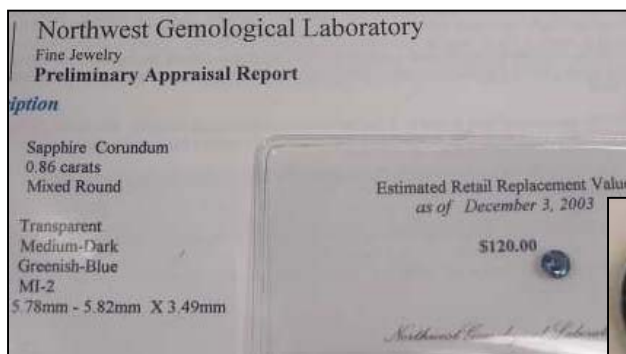


Holiday approaching and streams of people wade through Wal-Mart's' and speeding highway traffic, sloshing grit and sand. Lurching yellow sand trucks blaring headlights, scatter snow away in Helena, Montana.

Meanwhile, back at the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine, on the shores of the Missouri River's Hauser Lake, the sapphire mine staff is taping boxes, addressing labels and boxing sapphire gravel.



The loyal, inquisitive, and treasure hunting followers – are ordering sapphire gravel to mine at home. Sapphire gravel concentrates, a unique gift, set worlds' apart from Wal-Mart items and other icons of materialism. Sapphire gravel concentrates rivals most board games, outworn hobbies and remote control struggles.



Here is a sample appraisal representing the single Presidential faceted sapphire detailed in our last newsletter. You can order individual sapphires or matched sets on our website at [www.sapphiremine.com](http://www.sapphiremine.com)



Sheer ice layered the road to El Dorado, a total deterrent for haul truck drivers, despite the best of determination. We finished stockpiling the sapphire gravel from the past two months of hauling from the new mine. Through melting snow, we stacked the bags, doing our best to dry the gravel by the fireplace. The UPS driver, snow slipping, tires gripping, backed up to get a load of sapphire gravel boxes. Delivery by Christmas is still possible. Stock up on sapphire gravel for holiday entertaining and faceted blue Montana sapphires for gifts.

Elf Bags can still be ordered on line at [www.sapphiremine.com](http://www.sapphiremine.com) Gift Certificates, rough sapphire sample, rough garnet sample and gem pickup tools newly added to the website.



Russ will be leaving after Christmas for Laughlin, Nevada for the Cloud's Jamboree Gem and Mineral Show at the AVI Casino, January 2-February 1, 2004. (See [www.cloudsjamboree.com](http://www.cloudsjamboree.com) for details.) Those of you close to the area are welcome to come see Russ Thompson at the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine booth at the AVI RV Park. He will be bringing sapphire gravel, garnet gravel and assorted gear to the southern climates. Be watching for our January garnet special.



Cass, Mike, Brian or Deb will take your calls at 1-877-dig gems or order online at [www.sapphiremine.com](http://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. This newsletter can be viewed with full color photos from our web site.

Sincerely,

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