

*Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine
& Gold Fever Rock Shop*

June 2004

Dear Friends,

Blue lined clouds of unfettered images cast shadows over blanketed hills. Directionless flutters of silver lake water form dipping pools for diving swallows.

I, Deb, am waiting for decisions to gather steam – coalescing ideas into real form. My list making sets in motion (at least employees at times) gathering tools and checking off chores as more lists get posted in numerous notebooks (or rather humorous notebooks). Indeed, – I am half in the light and half in the dark – waiting for some unseen outcome – hoping positive reinforcements build a gathering future.



The trommel project is coming together. We have repaired our mining equipment after the sapphire gravel and hefty boulders tore holes in the screens. Russ spent a day searching for a missing part – which was finally located in the garbage. I admit it was a mystery – but the entire office was cleaned in the wake of intense drama as we scoured our minds and souls for possible clues to the “chunk-o-metal’s” disappearance. We are determined to get on with this mining business come hell or high water. As soon as the lights come back on – the sun – I imagine we can get on with it. For those of you who have been following the newsletter at www.sapphiremine.com – it’s been snow, wind and rain with a smattering of hope amongst the sunny days.



The Ethanol Producer’s Conference sent a busload of interested mining participants out to the mine to search for sapphires. We took good care of them, divvying up the gravel, teaching the art of centering the heavy gravel in the screen and grading their take. An 8-carat transparent blue sapphire came out of a regular Spokane Bar Monster Mine bag.

Several days later, Mr. Miller dug a 10.95-carat flawless garnet on Cactus Hill. I am calling it a garnet but there was debate as to perhaps it was a ruby. It was an elongated crystal and appeared to have a hexagon sapphire structure. The water wear from the ancient river made it difficult to tell just by appearance.



Diggers flocked to the hill for Father's Day. Both pits were busy. A family reunion took place for two days with four brothers and their families and mom. One brother, soon to deploy to Afganistan, gave the family a chance to get together and spend a day mining sapphires.

The Learning Channel has decided not to re-air the "Fortunes Abound" program at least through September. By then the summer will slip away and hunting season then takes precedence. Sondra Farrell, a writer for the *Los Angeles Times* who created the *Hunt for Amazing Treasures* book, told me her recent article mentioning the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine has been accepted for the November-December issue of *AARP Modern Maturity* magazine. She told me that issue would be sent to thirty to forty million subscribers. I am not sure what kind of effect that will have on the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine – but I would recommend you order your Christmas sapphires early at www.sapphiremine.com or call **1-877-dig gems!**

We will be mining fresh material in a week. The trommel is poised on the cliff side, ready to process material. Haul trucks will be busy bringing in fresh gravel. The excitement is building.

I've decided to continue our special of one free Hobby Box of sapphire gravel starting with this newsletter until July 15th for regular Spokane Bar Monster Mines and E- El Dorado Monster Mine orders. Be sure and mention this special in your orders.

Sincerely,

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