

## Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine & Gold Fever Rock Shop

March 24, 2005 Newsletter

Dear Friends,



The weather report looks promising – in a week – for 40-50 degree highs possible. But for now, a blizzard engages the driveway. Hibernators – Montanans aptly titled by several lonely tourists visiting the Gold Fever Rock Shop here at Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine near Helena, Montana – wistfully asked if they could dig for sapphires. The ground is still frozen. The sapphire tubs of water froze solidly – again.



The free Hobby Box special is still on until March 31<sup>st</sup>: a **free Hobby Box** with every **Monster Mine** (Spokane Bar Monster Mine, El Dorado Bar Monster Mine, Guaranteed Spokane Bar Monster Mine or Enhanced Monster Mine) **until March 31st**. Order your Monster Mine today at [www.sapphiremine.com](http://www.sapphiremine.com) “Go Mining”.

We had some funny calls. One customer called in from California to order a Monster Mine. She heard about mining sapphires and having the material shipped to her house after reading the recent AARP’s article in *Modern Maturity*. Cass told her about the free Hobby Box special this month that would arrive with her order. She said “how absurd!” She could not fathom how we could possibly be sending a free “hobby fox” in each order and could not possibly figure out what that meant. After Cass carefully explained it was a Hobby Box of sapphire gravel – she was relieved there was a logical explanation. Then we had to call back to get her street address- she said “and I thought we had done so well the first time”. We had to laugh-so now we call the Hobby Fox a one of a kind special.

Another customer received her Enhanced Monster Mine in plenty of time for her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday party. Living in urban city Virginia – she said they opened the bag only to exclaim “It is dirty!” She plans to separate the gravel into little silk pouches for her 50 guests at the party. I told her how the gravel is mined out of the ground and the process involved. She said they had never seen dirt or gravel before in the city. We live in opposing environments. I can barely imagine a city of concrete, pavement, houses and manicured lawns and she has no idea of what a sapphire mine looks like. (We track gold

bearing sand through the house and wash black sands down the sink in the mop water.)  
Go to “Newsletters” to view photos of the sapphire mine at [www.sapphiremine.com](http://www.sapphiremine.com).



*“Hi Guys: Just wanted to send a photo of some of the Sapphires and Garnets that we have found so far. We have sent some (not pictured) off for cooking and faceting. The batch we sent for cooking and faceting totaled over 70 carats in weight. We’re not sure how many carats are in the photo.”*

Cort Carrington  
Abilene Texas

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