



*Cameron Jewelers*  
*Fine Jewelry Designers and Brokers*

## March 2009 Newsletter

### In This Issue

[Oregon Sunstone](#)

[Gift Ideas](#)

[Repair Corner](#)

### Quick Links

[About Us](#)  
[Links-Information and Window Shopping](#)  
[Design Your Own Ring](#)  
[Diamond Guide - 4C's](#)

### Join Our List

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### Oregon Sunstone

Discovered in 1980, Oregon sunstone is one of the rarest gemstones on the planet. Sunstone exists elsewhere, but none compares with the brick reds and spruce greens found in Oregon due to the large concentrations of copper in the crystals. No other locality produces sunstones in so many colors: deep mandarin orange and imperial topaz reds; salmon and October leaf pink; purplish reds; and spruce greens. Oregon sunstones are commonly bi-colored and can feature stunning greens framed in, or intersected by, red.

Amazing colors is not the only feature exclusive to Oregon sunstone. Many stones have copper platelet inclusions which, when densely populated, reflect light in shimmering sheets that is called "shiller".



The above sunstone is a fine brick red and has bands of shiller present. Only 15% of the material mined in Oregon has the fine

reds, oranges and greens, and another 10% has the beautiful shiller. The remainder is what the miners call "clear", consisting mostly of soft-yellow and off-white hues.



The above stone is an example of a predominantly green sunstone that is framed in red. Below is an array of gem quality sunstones showing the broad palette.



Sunstone is unique and beautiful whether it is a designer cut stone or a standard oval, round or emerald cut. Many pieces are very affordable with prices staying under \$200 to \$400 per carat; highly prized colors such as the deep reds and greens can get as high as \$1500 to \$2000 per carat for larger pieces.



Owning a piece of Oregon Sunstone will not only give you something outside of the normal gemstone choices, but it will be "home grown". We have a mine contact and have access to a wide variety of sunstones, including a large selection of concave cut stones done by Chinese cutters to allow for very affordable price points. Contact us to see a selection.

## Gift Ideas



This is a London Blue Topaz and diamond pendant. The topaz is 14x10mm and the diamonds are .36cttw. This is customizable with your choice of gemstone centers and diamond qualities. There is also a smaller version with a 6x4mm oval center. As it is shown above, suggested retail is \$1600; **Our Price: \$800** which includes an 18" chain.



Sterling silver and 14k yellow gold earrings with cabochon cut trillion shaped Mozambique garnets.

Suggested retail: \$175

**Our Price: \$88**

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Sterling silver starfish earrings with 7-7.5mm freshwater pearl earrings on leverbacks.

Suggested Retail: \$150

**Our Price: \$75**

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14k white gold amethyst and diamond ring. The amethyst is an 8mm round with a checkerboard cut top for lot of sparkle. The 6 round brilliant cut diamonds weigh .07cttw.

Suggested Retail: \$645  
**Our price: \$322**

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24k yellow gold earrings with red garnets. The 24k gold is a super rich buttery yellow color.

Suggested retail is \$625

**Our Price is \$312.**

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The above ring is another from the Sylvie Collection at Spectrum Diamonds. As shown, the ring has a 2.00ct round brilliant center diamond and .70cttw of micro-pave diamonds on the shank. Sylvie Collection rings are available for any size or shape center diamond and in platinum or 18k gold. To view the collection, go to [The Sylvie Collection](#).

## Repair Corner

Here are some jewelry care tips.

### **Gentle & Effective Ways to Clean Diamond Rings**

Soak your diamond ring in a warm solution of mild liquid detergent and water. Dawn dishwashing liquid is a good choice, but any other mild detergent is fine. Use a soft brush if necessary to remove dirt. Soft is the key -- don't use a brush with bristles that are stiff enough to scratch the ring's metal setting. Swish the ring around in the solution, and then rinse it thoroughly in warm water. Close the drain first, or put the ring in a strainer to keep from losing it! Dry the diamond ring with a lint-free cloth. If the diamond and setting needs extra help, use a dental Water Pik to flush away small bits of grime.

### **Protect Diamond Rings from Chlorine**

You might already protect your hands from harsh chemicals, but if you don't, think about how chemicals such as chlorine can affect your fine jewelry. Remove your rings or wear gloves to keep chlorine away from your rings. This goes not only for

cleaning around the house, but when swimming or hot tubbing. The chlorine will destroy the alloy which is what gives gold its strength.

### Opals

Opals require special care. Never use an ultrasonic, never use ammonia, and avoid heat and strong light which can dry out the water in opals. Wipe with a damp cloth.

### Opaque Gemstones

Opaque gemstones like lapis lazuli, turquoise, malachite, require special care. Never use an ultrasonic cleaner and never use ammonia or any chemical solution. These gem materials should just be wiped clean gently with a moist cloth. These gemstones can be porous and may absorb chemicals, even soap, and they may build up inside the stone and discolor it.

**If you know of someone who is thinking of a jewelry purchase or is simply a jewelry lover, please go to the link below to send this newsletter to them or call them to let them know about us. Your referrals are appreciated.**



### Contact Us

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