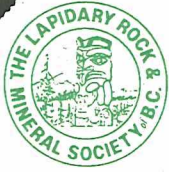




LAPHOUND NEWS



VICTORIA LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 5114, Station B
Victoria, B.C. V8R 6N3



Vol. 53-7

October 2010

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|------------------|---|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| President | - Cameron Speedie | Show Chairman | - Gerri Speedie |
| Vice President | - James Morrow | Librarian | - Molly Beddington |
| Past President | - Magdalene Magon | Sunshine Corner | - Lorena Taylor
Phone 250-384-0755 |
| Secretary | - Carrie Maier | Field Trips | - Gilles Lebrun
Phone 250-382-6119 |
| Treasurer | - Pierre Lambert | Workshop | - Gordon Taylor |
| Members at Large | - Sandy Burns
- John Burns
- Greg Shea
- Brad Woollven | Programs | - Vacant |
| Editor | - Barbara Smith | Membership | - Murdo Smith |
- 887 Falaise Crescent, Victoria, B.C. V8Y 1A2
Phone 250-479-7881.

October Meeting:

Monday October 4, 2010. Time: 7:30 pm.
Place: Burnside Bowling Clubhouse, 274 Hampton.

Program:

This will be a "Walk and Talk" where members will demonstrate to other members, activities that they are involved in.

Executive Meeting:

Monday 25th October, 2010 at 7 p.m. Location to be announced.

Show Meeting:

Tuesday October 18, at 7:00pm. Location - Burnside Bowling Clubhouse, 274 Hampton.

President's Message

Cameron Speedie.

Fall is upon us and with the cooler temps we once again turn our thoughts to our rainy day pass times. The VLMS will be adding a few new courses coming through the winter including silversmithing, precious metal clay, and wire wrapping so be sure to check the Laphound News for dates.

Editor's Remarks

Barbara Smith.

I am still trying to downsize my rock collection, if anyone is interested please call me.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Money is better than poverty if only for financial reasons."

Woody Allen.

Minutes of VLMS General Meeting September 13, 2010

President C. Speedie opening up meeting and the following guests were welcomed: Andrew Patton, Martha Aguero and Dot Lavoie. No new members.

Minutes: June 2010 meeting accepted as read. **Passed.**

Treasurer's Report: August 31, 2010

Balance fwd.	22,137.66
Credits	1.89
Debits	0
Gen. Ledger	22,139.55
Outstanding Cheques	100.00
Bank balance	22,239.55
Petty cash	73.23
Total cash	22,239.78

Acceptance moved by H. Hellmoldt, and second by G. Shea.

Carried.

Discussion of shuffling money around to get best return: 1) Savings acct. with higher interest rate until decide where to place it; 2) some in a GIC that increases in increments each year – with concept of re-investing it in second year or stay and increasing interest for that term. Leaves option as to where to put money. Last year proposals from membership to donate to charities were brought up. The bank suggests, therefore, that the money gained in interest every year, i.e. \$500-1,000 be held in a special account and this be given to the charities. The criteria for which charities to consider would be like Children's Foundation, etc. The membership would decide where the funds go through a vote.

Correspondence: G. Shea announced that Eileen from UVIC Geology Dept. sent an email thanking us for the gift she received in return for the time she volunteered to the membership with the past fieldtrip.

Sunshine Corner: nothing to report.

Workshop: Short course was done in June for basic lapidary in new workshop, Les Passmore Centre. Open house to view club's new space will be held, **Saturday, Sept. 25th @ 11-1pm.** Workshop coming up for use by the end of the month. Plan is for Basic Lapidary (Sat.) and Silversmithing (Thurs.) will be limited to five people at this time. Four classes (8 hours total) per course. Cameron will be providing the silver for the lessons and the estimated cost will be \$20.00. Must be a member to participate in the courses. Note: Club requires individuals to volunteer their time to be available to open the workshop other times during the week. Brian Brown, Brad Woollven and Mike Farley, at this time have offered to assist and invite others to also help. Approach Cameron Speedie.

Basic Lapidary: sign up with C. Speedie at this time for upcoming course.

Opal classes: will come later after the Beginners Lapidary course is completed. Club is looking for other instructors to teach these courses.

Library: New magazines in as well a large batch of books that were purchased for the club on behalf of estate of P. Strong, who passed on last year.

Field Trip: Jordan River: garnets and a little bit of gold found up by the reservoir. Next outing to JONANCO Tailgate and Demonstration open house in Nanaimo. Meet @ Colwood Corners parking lot @ 9:00 a.m. Call Giles Lebrun ahead if plan to attend. If interested in Rhondonite, Sept. 25th, Hill 60. Need 4W drive and good hiking boots. This will not be a led field trip but for more information check the VLMS web site links.

Membership: Name Tags available with Murdo Smith, please check with him, along with membership cards. Rock Hounder magazines that were not picked up in the past, are available to purchase.

Laphound news: Anything that is to come in to newsletter is requested to be in by the 15th.

Island Zone: Cameron did attend for first term. Focus of all clubs is to get the Island Zone going a bit more which entails more membership involved to help get more activities occurring between the clubs themselves. Any ideas regarding this, please contact Cameron. It was also brought to attention that having events over long weekends has not been well received. Island Zone will also be put on the VLMS website for members to view.

Rock & Gem Show: Awards still to be given out from show from the two classifications, Beginners and Seniors. For Silversmithing, Senior, Mike Hill, first place given out.

Next show meeting will be **September 21 @ 7pm, Club House.** Invite all to come who are interested, even a little bit, to help with next year's show. Expertise is not a requirement, but your ideas and enthusiasm are welcomed by new or senior members. Don't be shy.

Minutes of VLMS General Meeting Sept. 13, (continued)

New Business: Certificates for Basic Lapidary given out from June course given out. Beryl Chapman's family gave a cheque from her estate to the club and a new Geni will be purchased with this for the workshop. Summer club picnic was a good gathering.

Announcements: 1) one bench in old workshop available for whomever wants it (contact Cameron); 2) need help for Programs and invite members to come forward as well for Membership (see Murdo or Cameron). Murdo has the role all organized, down pat and running well. Gerry Bentley states that he has a large display case that needs taking off his hands. Also noted that, 'John' from Langford wants to sell his collection and other items (ones to do it in one large batch). It was in the last LapHound News. Brian McMillan shared his recent outing to Skagatt Valley, Bellingham area to a Rock & Gem club there.

The club member has a large barn full of specimens to buy and incredibly reasonable.

Programs: club social get together was held.

Old Business: none

Display: G. Lebrun: hematite and tourmaline – lg. piece of magnetite and in powdered form too along with garnets to view from Jordan River field trip. B. Woollven: attended the BCLS Summer Camp in Little Fort, B.C. and many sites were explored... specimens gathered for show... garnet, fluorite, mica schist. Next Summer camp to be held on Texada Island. G. Taylor: a rock found in garden that had lead oxidized in it. A. Bolger displayed a sample ring with synthetic diamond, moisenite (?sp) created by an American company Diamond Elle?

Members Event: enjoyed by all.

Meeting adjourned.



Sunshine Corner.

Lorena Taylor.

Nothing to report at present but please let me know if you hear of anyone who is ill.

Membership.

Murdo Smith.

New Members.

WELCOME

Martha Aguero,
1751 Northgate Road,
Cobble Hill, B.C.
V0R 1L6
Phone:- 250-743-2590

Dot Lavoie,
Box 363,
Brentwood Bay, B.C
V8M 1R3
Phone:- 250-882-0112

New Phone No.

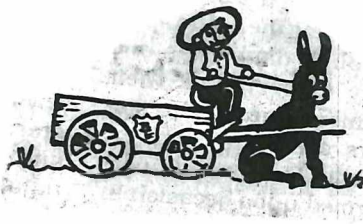
Mike Farley
Phone No. 250-812-7625

John Konkin
Phone No. 250-391-1820

At the October meeting we will start accepting membership renewals for the year 2011. Membership renewal forms are enclosed with this newsletter and will also be available at the Membership desk during the meeting if you receive the Laphound News by email.

We have on hand a number of VLMS nametags that members have ordered. Please arrange to pick them up.

Kathleen Kane will be assisting me at the membership desk from now on.



Field Trips.

Gilles Lebrun.

Sunday 17th October we will meet at Colwood Corners at 9 a.m. and proceed to Loss Creek. If you intend participating please phone me at 382-6119.

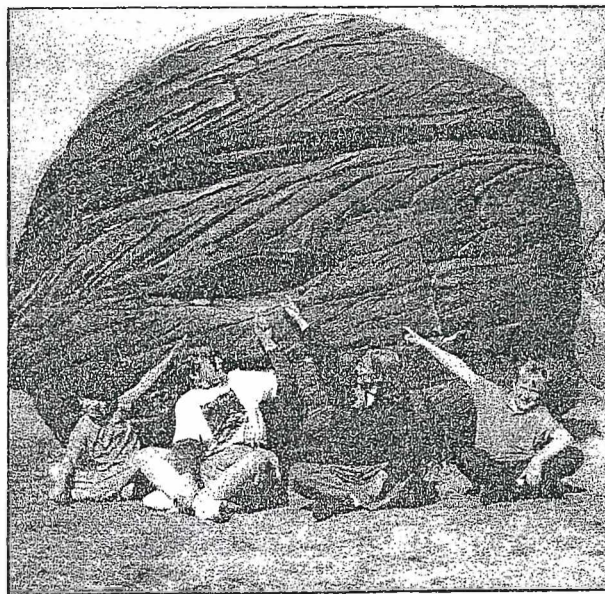
S H O W S & E V E N T S

- | | | |
|---------|---------|--|
| October | 16 – 17 | Surrey Rock & Gem Show, Sullivan Hall, 6302, 152 nd Street, Surrey. |
| | 22 – 23 | Penticton Lapidary Club Mall Show, Main Street, Penticton. |
| | 23 – 24 | Port Moody Gem Show, Kyle Center, 125 Kyle Street, Port Moody. |

For Sale

- 1 Large display case with lights. Offers. Phone: Gerry at 477-0643.

A NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK



**THE ROCK CITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO VISIT ROCK CITY,**

Rock City - A Geological Wonder

Leni Gagnon.

This summer, while traveling through Minneapolis, Kansas, we came across an area about the size of two football fields that were dotted with huge concretions. There are about 200 of them and some are as large as houses. For a small fee you can wander among them. Some of the concretions have been given names such as kissing rocks, giant's easychair, turtle and doughnut (this has a hole you can look through). People have been coming to see them since the early settlers passed through the area but it is not a highly developed tourist area.

Geologists believe that the concretions were formed millions of years ago from Dakota sandstone which was deposited when areas of Kansas were covered by an inland sea. After the seawater receded, the bottom of the sea became the land surface.

Rock City - A Geological Wonder (continued)

Ground waters containing calcium carbonate seeped through the porous sandstone, cementing the sand grains together. The spherical concretions slowly increased in size as additional layers of sand grains were cemented. Eventually wind, rain and floods eroded the land surface. This left many of the cement hard concretions totally exposed while others are still partially embedded with only their rounded tops showing. Perhaps there are more concretions that have not been exposed yet.

There are other examples of this phenomena throughout the world, but nowhere are they as large as they are here. Rock City is worth visiting because when you walk among the massive formations you will experience the magnitude of these gentle giants.

Ref. – Rock City Brochure.

Concretion

Derivation of the word Concretion is from the Latin con – meaning together and crescere – meaning to grow. Concretions are formed within layers of sedimentary strata. They usually form before the rest of the sediment becomes hardened rock. Their make up makes them more resistant to weathering than the host rock.

Concretions are formed from mineral precipitation around a nucleus which may be a small shell or small piece of some plant material. In some instances bombs and shell casings have been found inside siderite concretions found in England. Concretions are different from nodules which are replacement bodies.

Regarded as geological curiosities through the ages they have been thought to be dinosaur eggs, plant fossils and even artifacts, because of their unusual shapes. They vary in shape and hardness ranging from miniscule to several thousand pounds. Their composition is usually a carbonate mineral i.e. calcite, or forms of silica such as chert or jasper. They can also be composed of goethite, dolomite, siderite, pyrite or gypsum. Small hematite concretions have been observed on Mars.

Names of different types of concretions are – Septarian, Cannonball, Moqui and pop rocks. These last ones are so named because they explode when put in a fire and make sparks if hit with a hammer. Some pop rocks may be magnetic in varying degrees.

Concretions occur all over the world, common in shales, siltstone and sandstone. They may be in patches along bedding planes or protruding from cliffs.

Ref. – Internet

Golden Rules

via Calgary Lapidary Journal & Mountain Gem.

Tips for purchasing gifts of Gold.

It is beautiful, it is flattering, it is precious and it never goes out of style. That is what makes gold jewellery a popular gift year after year.

Classic designs can be found in 14K, 18K and even 24K gold. To help you get the most for your money, as well as a whole lifetime of pleasure, The World Gold Council offers some ‘golden rules’ for purchasing.

- 1. Know your Karats.

Always look for a karat mark when purchasing gold jewelry. It is usually stamped – 10K, 14K, 18K or 24K but can also be stamped 417, 585, 750 or 9999, which are the European equivalents.

Golden Rules (continued)

The Karat mark indicates the percentage of pure gold in the piece. 24K is 100% gold. Gold is often alloyed with other metals like copper, silver, nickel and zinc to give it strength and durability. The higher the Karat the more gold in the piece.

Different proportions of metals added to pure gold alloys their yellow, rose, green or white colouration. Most gold jewelry contains a mixture of at least two other metals. A wealth of difference.

2. Gold Filled: A layer of gold backed by another metal, such as chrome, nickel, copper or silver.
3. Gold Plate: The process of placing a base metal, such as copper, in a bath as in sealing the two metals through electroplating.
4. Gold Leaf: A sheet of gold varying from 4-5 millionths of an inch in thickness, used for gilding and other purposes.
5. Liquid Gold: Finely divided gold suspended in a vegetable oil and used for gilding ceramics.
6. Vermeil: 14K gold overlaid on sterling silver.
7. Sterling Silver: Silver of a purity of 925 parts per 1,000. The content is 92.5 % silver and 7.5 % of another metal, usually copper.
8. Silver Plate: Silver that has been coated with a base metal, such as copper, nickel silver or brass in a dipping process that included sealing the two metals through electroplating.

