



# LAPHOUND NEWS



**VICTORIA LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY**

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



Website:- [www.vlms.ca](http://www.vlms.ca)

Vol. 54-1

February 2011

- |                  |   |                 |                    |
|------------------|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| President        | - Cameron Speedie   | Show Chairman   | - Gerri Speedie    |
| Vice President   | - Mike Hill   | Librarian       | - Leni Gagnon      |
| Past President   | - Magdalene Magon   | Sunshine Corner | - Lorena Taylor    |
| Secretary        | - Carrie Maier  |                 | Phone 250-384-0755 |
| Treasurer        | - Greg Shea   | Field Trips     | - Gilles Lebrun    |
| Members at Large | - Barbara Smith   |                 | Phone 250-382-6119 |
|                  | - Manfred Agath   | Workshop        | - Gordon Taylor    |
|                  | - Brian McMillan  | Programs        | - Vacant           |
|                  | - Brad Woollven   | Membership      | - Kathleen Kane    |
| Editor           | - Barbara Smith 887 Falaise Crescent, Victoria, B.C. V8Y 1A2<br>Phone 250-479-7881. |                 |                    |

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**February Meeting:** Monday, February 7. Time: 7:30 pm.  
Place: Burnside Bowling Clubhouse, 274 Hampton Rd.

**Program:** Unknown at time of printing.

**Executive Meeting:** To be announced.

**Show Meeting:** Tuesday February 15. Time: 7:00 pm  
Place: Burnside Bowling Clubhouse, 274 Hampton Rd.

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**President's Message**

**Cameron Speedie.**

This year is off to a roaring start and it will be no time at all it seems until it is March and Rock and Gem Show time! The show is very exciting and looked forward to by many people in and out of the club. I would encourage you to approach the show chair if you can assist in any way, even if only for a few hours.

We also have been having great success with our courses for silversmithing and lapidary in the new workshop, in fact we can barely keep up with the demand which is a very positive sign as we are gaining new members at the same time. If you want to attend a course or there is something you would like to see offered let any of the workshop coordinators or myself know!

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**Editor's Remarks**

**Barbara Smith.**

Thank you very much Leni for your article in this Laphound News.

Anyone wishing to write an article, joke or other, please let me know before the deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> of any month.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“The beautiful thing about learning is that nobody can take it away from you.”

B. B. King.

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**Minutes of VLMS General Meeting January 3, 2011**

**Call to order and welcome by Cameron Speedie, President. Visitors:** Sylvia, Leslie and Arthur  
**New members:** 0

**Minutes:** No errors or omissions noted in General Meeting Minutes as read in the Laphound News. Motion by Herb Hellmoldt to accept. **Carried**

**Treasurer Report:**

Monthly Report: To Dec. 31, 2010

Balance Fwd –	\$20,347.47
Credits –	\$390.75
Debits –	\$1,038.03
General Ledger –	\$19,697.19
Outstanding cheques	\$1,040.80
Bank Bal	\$20,737.99
Petty cash	\$73.23
Total Cash	\$20,811.22

Motion from Greg Shea to accept as read, seconded by Mike Hill **Carried.**

Annual Financial Report 2010 read out to membership; also to be posted on membership website: Thank you sent out from Pierre to Don Meyer and David Hosking for auditing the books and Sandi Burns for her assistance. Motion made by Pierre to Adopt Report as read, seconded by Mike Hill. **Carried.**

**Correspondence:** Notice from BCLS of upcoming, 2011 B.C. Gem Show, April 8-10 in Abbotsford; Alberni Rock & Gem Club Annual Show. Email received by Cameron: a gentlemen who has a river boat that can go up the Fraser River. For those who want to book it, Cameron will post information on website.

**Sunshine Corner:** Al Bodman's wife passed away recently (he is one of the club's former members) and Lorena sent a card to him.

**Workshop:** Brian Brown stated that is was quiet over the holidays but it will be open next Thurs (7-9). Silver work if being held will be also at this time & Sat. (11-3) thereafter.

**Basic Lapidary:** Completion of two classes in the Fall with the use of the new Genie really turning around the time in turning out work done. Sat. 9-1pm for Basic Lapidary; Silver-smithing (20.00 for course and \$45.00 materials fee and tools/equipment provided) will be Thursday night starting with soldering. Upon completing this course, members will be able to use the workspace afterwards to practice their skills but they will be required to use their own speciality tool (soldering, etc.).

**Opal Classes:** No wait-list at present. After Silver-smithing will likely offer more advance courses for opal. Wire-Wrapping and Precious Metal Clay also being planned.

**Membership:** Please check with Murdo if you are awaiting a new name tag. He has them available for almost a year. As well, some RockHounder magazines that have not been claimed.

**Library:** Molly is transitioning into leaving the role next month, in the mean time, Greg Shea is working with her to prepare taking over, with cataloguing, etc.

**Field Trip:** none planned for the wintertime but instead if someone wants to do one nearby, just call Giles and he can arrange for a mini field trip. Recent outing at Island View Beach found lots of flower stone. Next month Giles will be at CanWest mall, so no field trip... come join in to see what is happening there.

Note: Ideas for any mini or larger field trips, please approach Giles.

**Laphound News:** Nothing to report.

**Gem Show:**

Being held the weekend of 18,19,20 March: Theme is *Prospecting in B.C.* Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> next show committee meeting: a few things to be discussed include reassessing the isle width related to tables for wheelchair access along with other things. Lorena Taylor added that in some other shows the doors would be opened an hour earlier for wheelchair access. Cameron said that this would be considered, also having signage saying that for those in a wheelchair to have special direct access.

All commercials are already booked and wait listing has been started.

**Minutes of VLMS General Meeting January 3, 2011 (continued)**

Brad needing some specimens for the travel cases to promote the theme. Please contact him. CanWest, Feb. 4-6 Rock and Gem Show (check website for dates and more details).

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

Encouragement by President to have new and senior to join in on events, as it is a great social event for all. As well as coming out to see what goes on in the club workshop, as you do not have to participate in order to be in attendance.

Chek T.V. : Leech town and gold panning leading into our R&G show to promote which will be Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm with P. Lydon

Check website about upcoming courses for Precious Metal Clay and Wire-Wrapping. Anticipate that they will fill up very fast and that they will have a limit on how many seats will be available.

**Island Zone:** No news – cancelled due to weather last month.

**Programs:** this month is our Annual Election and our club auction will be in May this year.

**Announcements:** none

**Display Table:** various members showing items, collection of minerals (Leni & Yvan Gagnon) and for sale items... saw blades and other specimens by others.

**Member Event:** enjoyed by all.

**Adjournment:** of this meeting and onto the Annual General Meeting 2011

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**Annual General Meeting**

**January 3, 2011**

M. Magon, Past President, conducted the election of the Executive for the year 2011. After reading out the names of the various nominees, she called for nominations from the floor. The following were declared elected for the 2011 Executive.

**Elected Positions**

President: Cameron Speedie

Vice President: Mike Hill- new

Treasurer: Greg Shea - new

Secretary: Carrie Maier

Members at Large 2 yrs: Barbara Smith

Manfred Agath

1 yr: Brad Woollven

Brian MacMillan – (new to complete term for Greg Shea)

**Appointed Committee Positions**

Membership: Kathleen Kane – assisted by Murdo Smith

Programs: still to be determined

Island Zone: Cameron Speedie, Gerri Irwin & Magdalene Magon

Sunshine Corner: Lorena Taylor

Social Convenor: Molly Beddington

Showcase Co-ord.: Brad Woollven

Field Trips: Giles Lebrun

Workshop: Brian Brown, Brad Woollven & Brian MacMillan

Editor: Barbara Smith

Mailing Newsletter: Phyllis Hoffman

Library: Leni Gagnon (starting in Feb.)

Member's Event: Lorena Taylor

Show Chairperson: Gerri Irwin

Show Co-chair: Don Meyer

Motion made by Gerri Irwin to accept these appointments, seconded by Giles Lebrun. **Carried**

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**V.L.M.S. Lapidary Courses.**

If you are interested in any Lapidary or Lapidary related courses check the VLMS website or phone Cameron Speedie at 250-385-0597.



**Sunshine Corner.**

**Lorena Taylor.**

Nothing to report at present. Please phone me at 250-384-0755 if you hear of anyone under the weather.

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**Membership.**

**Kathleen Kane.**

New Member

***Welcome***

Silvia Moar,  
118 Hampton Rd.  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8Z 1G7

If you intend to renew your membership for the year 2011, please do so at the next meeting as we are completing our report to British Columbia Lapidary Society (BCLS), which is due by February 15, 2011. If your membership is not renewed by February 7, 2011 we will not be able to place your name on the BCLS report and you will not be insured for going on field trips.

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**Field Trips.**

**Gilles Lebrun.**

The field trip this month will be on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> to Whitty's Lagoon. We will meet at 9 a.m. at Colwood Corners. Please let me know if you intend to participate, phone:250-382-6119.

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

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|----------|---------|--|
| February | 4 – 16  | Rock & Gem Show, Gila Co. Fairgrounds, Globe, Arizona  |
| February | 11 – 14 | Tucson Gem & Mineral Show, Convention Center, Tucson.  |
|          | 26 - 27 | Everett Rock & Gem Show, Washington National Guard Armory, 2730 Oakes Ave. Everett, Wash.                            |
| March    | 12 – 13 | Port Alberni Rock & Gem Show, Cherry Creek Community Centre  |
|          | 18 – 20 | Victoria Lapidary & Mineral Society Rock & Gem Show, Leonardo Da Vinci Center, Bay Street, Victoria                  |
|          | 26 - 27 | Port Angeles Rock Show, Saturday 9:00 am to 7:00 pm<br>Sunday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Location close to ferry terminal. |



## Mount St. Hilaire

Leni Gagnon.

Mount St. Hilaire is among the 10 most mineral rich sites in the world. The mineral riches of this area have a reputation of quality, quantity and diversity. Over 372 types of minerals, (over 50 were originally found there) have been found at the site. The most renowned is Serandite.

Mount St. Hilaire is one of 10 prominent hills, collectively called the Monteregian Hills.

The hills run West to East. They start with Oka (30 Km west of Montreal), Mount Royal, St. Bruno, St. Hilaire, Rougemont, Johnson, Yamaska, Shefford, Brome and Megantic (50 Km East of Sherbrooke) and 40 Km east of Montreal. Mt. St. Hilaire is only 4 Km in diameter and 400 m high. It appears higher because it protrudes above the flat plain of the St. Lawrence lowlands. The minerals found there are sought by collectors the world over.

Although Mt. St. Hilaire's shape makes it look like a volcano, it is not. These hills were formed as a series of platonitic intrusions in sedimentary bedrock. The unwellings of magma never broke the surface. The magma slowly cooled as a mass of igneous rocks surrounded by sedimentary bedrock. The minerals formed approximately 3 Km below the surface. The alkaline nature of the magma that formed the mountain contributed to the diversity of the minerals. Many of these minerals are considered rare. Millions of years of weathering and the scraping of ice has eroded the surrounding earth, leaving the Monteregian Hills exposed.

The Poudrette family obtained the property and the Poudrette Quarry began its mining operation in 1954. Collectors enjoyed many field trips to the quarry and found many beautiful specimens. In 2008 the Poudrette Quarry was sold and all access to collectors came to a halt. Within the last year limited access to the quarry has been gained, to the delight of collectors.

Ref. Alkali Nuts Newsletter, McGill University Minerology Newsletter, Mineral Forum and Famous Mineral Locations of Canada.

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